

# The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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## Miracles in BRITAIN

By Rev. Billy Graham

In the midst of the world's troubles and difficulties God is at work. From many parts of the Western World reports are coming of spiritual awakening. The front page of the Chicago Daily News carried a story recently of an all-night prayer meeting at the Moody Church in Chicago. Here in London, the world's largest city, we have found the answer to the question which millions the whole world over are asking—is Christianity adequate for this generation?

In this, the most momentous hour the world has ever known, when science has created a Frankenstein which could annihilate all human life on this planet, we are re-discovering that which we have long known, that Christ is the answer. Over a million people have already been in this great arena, and over twenty-five thousand of them have professed Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

As a basis for some thrilling stories which have come out of this Greater London Crusade, I would like to quote these words in Hebrews 13:8—"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever."

History tells us what He did yesterday when He was upon earth. In His first sermon at Nazareth He declared: "I am come to

preach deliverance to the captives." As the Great Emancipator He not only preached spiritual, physical and social emancipation, but He practiced it. He delivered and emancipated the spiritual (Continued on page 11)



Dr. Billy Graham

## PREACHING That Produces Results in Revivals

By Evangelist Clifton W. Brannon  
626 Electra St., Longview, Texas

"And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire."—Heb. 1:7.

We are deeply conscious today of the need for preaching that will produce results in revivals. The revival that does not result in the salvation of lost souls or a great evangelistic campaign, is not considered to be a fruitful revival. In our text we find the secret to successful sermonizing. The source is God. The subject is His ministers. The service is the object which He expects to produce, "a flame of fire." You will note that the source is singular, and that the subject is plural.

Fire comforts or consumes. It purifies or parches. It can cure, or it can curse. It is a delight, or it becomes the devourer. It is a blessing, or it can produce bondage. Fire is the power of sacrifice, or it may be strange fire, to pollute worship. God answers by fire. First Kings 18:24—"And the God that answereth by fire, let him be God." "Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench" (I Kings 18: 38).

Fire is a purifier. Zechariah 13:9a—"And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried." "Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the

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Evangelist Clifton W. Brannon

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## Thank God For Friends

God Raising up Many Friends to Help With Special Building Fund Need

By Rev. Walter E. Handford, Vice-President  
Sword of the Lord Foundation

There are many little words that carry a big meaning. Words like father, mother, home and Heaven are loaded with deep meaning for nearly everyone. The word "friend" is another little word that carries with it the deep meaning of love and devotion, faithfulness and loyalty. James 2:23 tells us that Abraham was called "the Friend of God." How wonderful is the thought in Matthew 11:19 when Jesus says that men called Him "a friend of publicans and sinners." In the wonderful 15th chapter of John, verses 14 and 15 say, "Ye are my friends; if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his Lord doeth: but I have called you friends."

How happy our case to know that we are called friends of Jesus Christ. How sad would be our plight had we not a friend like Jesus Christ! We sing many times, "What a friend we have in Jesus, 'All our sins and griefs to bear.'"

Here at The Sword of the Lord we never cease to thank God for friends across the nation who help to provide for this work in many ways. Since we have no strong denomination or influential group behind us, we have only our friends to depend upon in all of the projects that we carry on for the Lord. Nearly every place that I go across the country I run across friends who read THE SWORD OF THE LORD, are blessed by it and who help in the work. I remember several years ago I was driving on the West Coast in Northern California. I had stopped at a gas station and was using a Texaco credit card which listed my Wheaton address. As I handed it over to the attendant to fill out after the purchase he said, "Say, my wife and I get a paper which comes from Wheaton, Illinois, called THE SWORD OF THE LORD!" In March I was in a Baptist church just outside of Los Angeles. My college roommate, Rev. Frank Freed, is the pastor. He introduced me to the congregation. After the service I was pleased to find that many of those people were reading THE SWORD OF THE LORD and came to tell me what a blessing they received from our work here.

And in our special Building

Fund need God has been raising up friends throughout the land who are helping us. Just a few days ago I received a fine letter from one of our good friends in Albany, New York. Mr. Arthur DeMoss became acquainted with Dr. Rice while he was there in a meeting and since that time has been a wonderful friend in sharing the burdens of the work here. He sent in a \$200 pledge card and told us that he felt led of the Lord to promise to pay \$200 on our \$44,000 Building Fund obligation by August 1. Brother DeMoss had read in THE SWORD how that we were praying for God to raise up 300 friends of the Lord's work who would promise to give \$100 each by August 1, on our Building Fund need. Then, we have been praying that God would raise up 8 special friends who would be able to give \$500 each by August 1. In addition to that, we need thousands of other friends who will give as the Lord provides in lesser amounts to help us reach our obligation of \$44,000 by August 1.

For a long time we have been praying for God to show us a piece of property which we should buy for a new Sword of the Lord Foundation office building. We are now using two buildings separated by one block here in Wheaton. There are a good many problems involved in getting back and forth between the buildings

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## "Worship Centers" and "Altar Sets" are IDOLS

The Present Formal Tendencies in Church Worship Violate the Second Commandment, Pattern After Roman Catholicism

By Evangelist John R. Rice

A Christian woman, daughter of a sound and useful pastor, writes to me in distress. In the church where her father ministered for years, the modern pastor has begun to use an "altar set" consisting of candles and a cross, and with a communion set goes to private homes to administer the Lord's Supper to the sick. This, she feels, is contrary to the Word of God and she feels compelled to withdraw from the church. My opinion is asked and this question needs clear scriptural discussion.

First of all, there is absolutely no Bible authority for administering the Lord's Supper to individuals alone, whether kept at home by sickness, or isolated for any other reason. First Corinthians 11:33 says, "Wherefore, my brethren, when ye come together to eat, tarry one for another." In this discussion of the Lord's Supper the inspired Apostle Paul teaches that the Lord's Supper should be in a public gathering, and that one should wait for an

other. In Acts 20:7 we are told, "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them..." This was the rule in Bible times, with never a single mentioned exception; the Lord's Supper was observed in public services with groups of Christians together.

The necessity for a public observance is inherent in the very nature of the Lord's Supper. It is

a memorial supper. Christians take the Lord's Supper not for their own private good or enjoyment, but as a public testimony to the broken body and shed blood of our Saviour. As it would not fit in with the Bible idea of testimony for an individual to stand up in his own bedroom with nobody else present, and solemnly speak in testimony to nobody in particular, so it does not fit in with the Bible thought of the Lord's Supper for people to take the communion service in their own homes.

This idea of individual communion, administered to sick people originated with Catholics, for the very simple reason that Catholics do not know anything about salvation by individual faith. With them, salvation is by the church, and the church officially administers the mass and officially pronounces sins forgiven. Of course, if the priest can forgive sins in public, he can forgive sins in private, and so there is as much

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15 Wonderful Scriptural Chapters on

# Personal Work in SOUL WINNING

By the Late World-Wide Evangelist,  
Bible School Builder and Bible Teacher

Dr. R. A. TORREY

## CHAPTER VI

### How To Deal With Those Who Have Little Or No Concern About Their Souls

The largest class of men and women are those who have little or no concern about their salvation. There are some who contend that there is no use dealing with such, but there is. It is our business when a man has no concern about his salvation to go to work to produce that concern. How shall we do it?

#### I. Show Him That He Is a Great Sinner Before God

There is no better verse for this purpose than Matthew 22:37, 38: "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. THIS IS THE FIRST AND GREAT COMMANDMENT."

Before the one with whom you are dealing reads these verses, you can say to him, "Do you know that you are a great sinner before God?" Very likely he will reply, "I suppose I am a sinner, but I do not know that I am such a great sinner." "Do you know that you have committed the greatest sin that a man can possibly commit?" "No, I certainly have not." "What do you think is the greatest sin that a man can commit?" Probably he will answer, "Murder." "You are greatly mistaken, let us see what God says about it." Then have him read the passage. When he has read it, ask him, "What is the first and great commandment?" "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." "Which commandment is this?" "The first and great commandment." "If this is the first and great commandment what is the first and great sin?" "Not to keep this commandment." "Have you kept it? Have you put God first in everything; first in your affections, first in your thoughts, first in your pleasures, first in your business, first in everything?" "No, I have not." "What commandment, then, have you broken?" "The first and great commandment."

Some time ago a young man came into our inquiry meeting. I asked him if he was a Christian, and he replied that he was not. I asked him if he would like to be, and he said that he would. I said, "Why, then, do you not become a Christian tonight?" He replied, "I have no special interest in the matter." I said, "Do you mean that you have no conviction of sin?" "Yes," he said, "I have no conviction of sin, and am not much

concerned about the whole matter." I said, "I hold in my hand a book which God has given us for the purpose of producing conviction of sin; would you like to have me use it upon you?" Half laughing, he replied, "Yes." When he had taken a seat, I had him read Matthew 22:37, 38. When he had read the passage I said to him, "What is the first and great commandment?" He read it from the Bible. I said, "If this is the first and great commandment, what is the first and great sin?" He replied, "Not to keep this commandment." I asked, "Have you kept it?" "I have not." "What have you done then?" Said he, "I have broken the first and greatest of God's commandments," and broken down with a sense of sin, then and there he went down before God and asked Him for mercy, and accepted Christ as his Saviour.

Another excellent passage to use to produce conviction of sin is Romans 14:12.

"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

The great object in using this passage is to bring the careless man face to face with God, and make him realize that he must give account to God. When he has read it, ask him, "Who has to give account?" "Every one of us." "Who does that take in?" "Me." "Who then is to give account?" "I am." "To whom are you to give account?" "To God." "Of what are you to give account?" "Of myself." "Read it that way." "I shall give account of myself to God." "Now just let that thought sink into your heart. Say it over to yourself again and again, 'I am to give account of myself to God.' 'I am to give account of myself to God.' Are you ready to do it?"

Amos 4:12 can be used in much the same way:

"Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, PREPARE TO MEET THY GOD, O Israel."

Another very effective passage with many a careless man is Romans 2:16:

"In the day when GOD SHALL

JUDGE THE SECRETS of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel."

When the one with whom you are dealing has read the verse, say "What is God going to do in some coming day?" "Judge the secrets of men." "Judge what?" "The secrets of men." "Who is it that is going to judge the secrets of men?" "It is God." "Are you ready to have the secret hidden things of your life judged by a holy God?"

#### II. Show Him the Awful Consequences of Sin

A very effective passage for this purpose is Romans 6:23,

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

When he has read the passage, ask him, "What is the wages of sin?" "Death." Explain to him the meaning of death, literal death, spiritual death, eternal death. Now say, "This is the wages of sin; have you earned these wages?" "Are you willing to take them?" "No." "Well, there is one alternative, read the remainder of the verse." "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." "Now you have your choice between the two, the wages that you have earned by sin, and the gift of God; which will you choose?"

Another very useful passage along this line is Isaiah 57:21:

"There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked."

Another verse declaring the fearful consequences of sin, is John 8:34:

"Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin."

Have the one with whom you are dealing read the passage, then ask him what every one who commits sin is, "The servant of sin." "What kind of a service is that?" Bring it out that it is very degrading. Ask the inquirer if he appreciates that this is true of him, that he is the servant of sin, and then ask him if he does not want to be set free from this awful bondage.

There is another passage that one can use in much the same way, Romans 6:16:

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"

#### III. Show Him the Awfulness of Unbelief in Jesus Christ

Very few out of Christ realize that unbelief in Jesus Christ is anything very bad. Of course they know it is not just right, but that it is something awful and appalling, they do not dream for a moment. They should be shown that there is nothing more appalling than unbelief in Jesus Christ. A good passage for this purpose is John 3:18, 19:

"He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."

When the passage has been read, say, "Now this verse tells us of someone who is condemned already; who is it?" "He that believeth not." "Believeth not on whom?" "On Jesus." "How many that believe not on Jesus are condemned already?" "Every one." "Why is every one that believeth not on Jesus condemned already?"

"Because he has not believed on the name of the only begotten Son of God." "Why is this such an awful thing in the sight of God?"

"Because light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil." "In whom did the light come into the world?" "In Jesus." "Jesus then, is the incarnation of light, God's fullest revelation to man: to reject Jesus then is the deliberate rejection of what?" "Light." "The choice of what?" "Darkness." "In rejecting Jesus, what are you rejecting?" "Light." "And what are you choosing?" "Darkness rather than light." Ask all the questions that are necessary to impress this truth upon the mind of the unbeliever, that he is deliberately rejecting

the light of God, and choosing darkness rather than light.

Another very useful passage for the same purpose is Acts 2:36, 37:

"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

When the passage is read, say, "Now here were certain men under deep conviction of sin, trying out, 'Men and brethren, what shall we do?' What was the sin that they committed that produced such deep conviction?" "They had crucified Jesus." "What had God done with Jesus?" "He had made Him both Lord and Christ." "These men had rejected One whom God hath made both Lord and Christ. Is that a serious sin?" "Yes." "And are you not guilty of that very sin today? You are rejecting Jesus, and this Jesus whom you are rejecting, is the very one whom God hath made both Lord and Christ. Is it not an awful sin to deliberately reject one whom God hath thus exalted?"

Another good passage to use is John 16:8, 9:

"And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me."

When the passage has been read, ask the one with whom you are dealing, "Of what sin is it, that the Holy Ghost who knows the mind of God, especially convicts men?" "Of the sin of unbelief." "What then, is the crowning sin in God's sight?" "Unbelief in Jesus Christ." "Why is unbelief in Jesus Christ the crowning sin in God's sight?" Then bring out that it is because it reveals most clearly the heart's deliberate choice of sin rather than righteousness, of darkness rather than light, of hatred to God rather than love to God.

In some cases it is well to use Hebrews 10:28, 29:

"He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?"

When the passage has been read, ask the inquirer, "How serious an offence was it in God's sight to despise Moses' law?" "The one who did it died without mercy." "Is there any offence more serious in God's sight than despising the law of Moses?" "Yes, treading under foot the Son of God." "Does not every one who rejects Jesus Christ, practically tread under foot the Son of God, and count the blood of the covenant wherewith he was sanctified an unholy thing?" "Yes, I suppose he does." "Are you not committing this very sin?"

#### IV. Show Him the Awful Consequences of Unbelief

For this purpose begin by using Hebrews 11:6, the first of the verse:

"But without faith it is impossible to please him."

"Now this verse tells you that there is one thing that God absolutely requires if we are to please him: what is it?" "Faith." "And no matter what else we do, if we have not faith, what is impossible for us?" "To please him."

Follow this up by John 8:24:

"I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins."

"What does this verse tell us will happen to you if you do not believe in Jesus?" "I shall die in my sins." Then have the inquirer read verse 21,

"Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come."

That will show the result of once dying in his sins.

Further follow this up by II Thessalonians 1:7-9:

"And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not

the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power."

Say to the inquirer, "This verse tells us of a coming day in which Jesus is to take vengeance upon a certain class of people, and they are to be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and the glory of His power. Who is it that are to be thus punished?" "They that know not God, and that obey not the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." "Are you obeying the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ?" "No." "If then, Christ should come now, what would be your destiny?" "I should be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and the glory of His power."

Then turn to Revelation 21:8. This verse needs no comment, it tells its own story:

"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

Revelation 20:15 may also be used:

"And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

#### V. Show Him That All One Has to Do to Be Lost, Is Simply to Neglect the Salvation That Is Offered in Christ

A verse which will serve for this purpose is Hebrews 2:3:

"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him."

When the verse has been read, ask, "What does this verse tell us is all that is necessary to be done in order to be lost?" "Simply neglect the great salvation." "That is the very thing that you are doing today; you are already lost. God has provided salvation for you at great cost: all you need to do to be saved, is to accept the salvation, but you cannot be saved any other way; and all you need to do to be lost, is simply to neglect it. You do not need to plunge into desperate vices; you do not need to be an open and avowed infidel; you do not need to refuse even to accept salvation; if you simply neglect it, you will be lost forever. Will you not let the question of the text sink deep into your heart? How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?"

Another passage to use for this purpose is Acts 3:22, 23:

"For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people."

"This passage tells us about a Prophet that Moses said the Lord would raise up. Who was that Prophet?" "Jesus." "What does God tell us to do with that Prophet?" "Hear him 'in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.'" "What shall happen unto him who does not hearken unto the words of that Prophet?" "He shall be destroyed from among the people." "Are you hearkening unto the words of that Prophet?"

Still another passage to use is Acts 13:38-41:

"Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses."

"Beware therefore, lest that come upon you, which is spoken of in the prophets; Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you."

"These verses tell us about Jesus. They tell us of something that is preached to us through Him. What is it?" "Forgiveness of sins." "They tell us what it is

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# "Always To Pray, And Not To Faint"

By the late Dr. Charles A. Blanchard  
Long president of Wheaton College

"And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men might always to pray, and not to faint"—(Luke 18:1).

It is clear that we are dealing here with the duty of perseverance and it is well known to all those who have either thought or observed, that this is a point where many of us break down. It is easy to be discouraged and God oftentimes delays answers to prayer because He wishes us to learn to trust Him in the dark, to believe when we cannot see. Do not earthly parents do the same? Who is there who is wise with his children who has not at times waited to bestow some good gift which he had already willed, in order that his children might learn to confide? What difference can it make to the Almighty whether He bestows a good gift upon me at one time or another?

God's resources are infinite, so also is His wisdom and love. Why should He then delay? That He does we all know; that He intended to, the teaching of Jesus clearly evidences. "Men ought always to pray, and not to faint." I have had friends who said: "I do not think we ought to ask God for the same thing repeatedly. He knows whether it is best for us to have it or not. He will surely do what is best. Why not, therefore, simply remind Him of our need and then wait?" The objection to this teaching is that it is contrary to the word of Jesus Christ on the same subject.

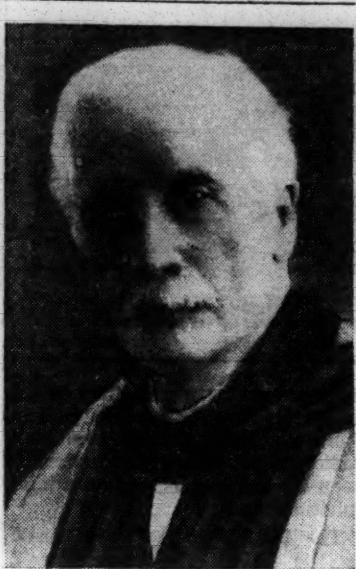
In Luke, the eleventh chapter, our Lord is giving particular instructions in regard to prayer. He deals with this very question of repetition in the verses 5 to 13, and He clearly intimates that God will bestow good gifts upon men who persevere in prayer which He will not bestow on people who do not persevere in prayer. The man in the story came to his neighbor for bread. It was inconvenient to supply it and the neighbor declined, but because of his importunity our Lord says he will rise and give him as many as he needs (Luke 11:8). Then he goes on to say: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find," and I think it is not by accident that He unites the prayer of importunity with the promise to prayer.

## Seven Years, or Fifteen Years

In one of our church prayer-meetings not long ago, a lady rose and said: "My father is a drunkard. I have prayed seven years that God would save him and he is not saved. It seems as if God did not hear or did not care and I am discouraged. I do not know what to do." She had only taken her seat when a lady rose and said: "My father was a drunkard fifteen years and I prayed for him all through those fifteen years. Then he was saved, not alone from drink, but from all other sins. Now for fifteen years he has been a happy Christian. I think my sister ought not to be discouraged, but to pray on." This is only one instance of many, but it was very impressive because of the two testimonies which came one after the other.

The case of Mr. Mueller's two friends is so often mentioned and so widely known, that I feel like apologizing for mentioning it here; but it was so remarkable an instance of this kind that I cannot well omit it. I heard Mr. Mueller say in his address in Farewell Hall, Chicago: "I have prayed for two men by name every day for thirty-five years; on land or sea, sick or well, I have remembered them before God by name, requesting their salvation. They are both living; they are neither of them saved, but I shall continue to pray for them daily, by name, until they are saved, or die."

It is related by a friend who wrote of his life, after his death, that just about that time there were two persons for whom Mr. Mueller had prayed daily for sixty-two years, who were converted. I



Dr. Charles Blanchard

did not know the names in either case so I cannot say that these two for whom he prayed sixty-two years were the two to whom he referred in the address which I mentioned. I have no doubt that they were. It would seem improbable that there should be more than one case of that kind. Do not, however, lose the thought. Here was a man praying every day for sixty-two years for the salvation of two men before they were saved. At the end of that time they were saved. What a lesson that is for us. What a reproof for our lack of perseverance. What an encouragement to continue in prayer. "Men ought always to pray, and not to faint."

## Another Case

I do not wish to produce the impression that my own experiences are more numerous or more valuable than those of other persons, but it is natural that one should know his own life story better than that of other people, and further, one cannot testify directly to any experience except his own. It is one thing to say: "Somebody told me," and it is another thing to say: "This was my experience."

North of our college campus, some years ago, there stood an old frame building. It was not particularly valuable in itself but the land upon which it stood was very valuable. One of our honored trustees, Dr. R. J. Bennett, purchased the house and the land and gave them to the college. This bit of land constituted about one-third of the block of which it was a part. Two-thirds remained. One portion of this two-thirds was owned in New York, the other in Nebraska. It was obvious to anyone who looked at the land situation, that the possession of that strip would be very helpful to the college. It was adjacent and was much to be desired for a number of reasons.

I asked friends who owned it to give it to the college. They declined to do so. I repeated the request after an interval of years and still they felt that it was more than they could do. At last I began to pray that the Lord would give us the land. At times I left the walk and stood upon the ground, reminding myself that God had promised Israel what the soles of his feet trod upon. I reminded God of this same promise and as well as I could, claimed by faith this land for the institution. Still it did not come. Years passed into other years. No one purchased the ground. It was good ground, beautifully located. It would have been a very pleasant place for residences, yet there it lay, unoccupied. Finally, the parties who owned the New York strip directed their agent to make sale. He put it on the market, intending to force the sale for what he

could get. Special assessments were high, and were to be increased. I said to the owner: "What will you let us have the land for?" He said: "For so much." I went to a generous friend who had made us debtor many times, and said to her: "For about two thousand dollars we can secure this property, which is admirably located, and which we really need." She at once said: "I think I can furnish the money within a few months." She did and that portion of the land came into our possession.

Still there was the remaining one-third. It lay between the other two and it was for sale. The parties who owned it wished to sell it and I desired it for the college. I thanked God many times for the two pieces which He had given and asked Him for the third piece. Nobody bought it. There it lay, beautiful land, desirably located, to be purchased for a moderate price, yet it was held. Finally the owner made us a proposition, which, without the expenditure of any money on our part, would enable us to secure the land. We did secure it. It is now a part of the college possession. The legal transactions are not entirely complete, for one of the owners was not living and there were necessary proceedings in court, but the transaction is practically concluded and the whole property is ours, not for our own uses but for the instruction of young people through all the years until the Lord comes, and for a part in His work during the millennial years.

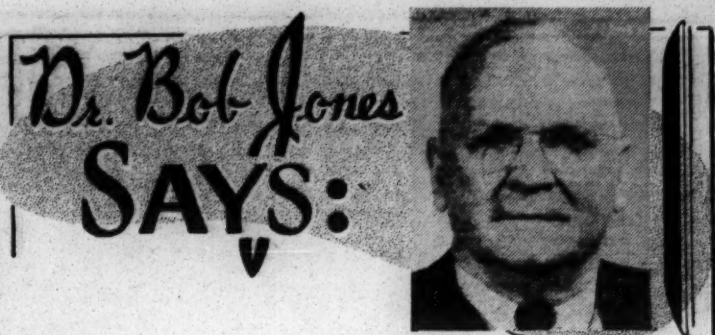
## A Glance Backward

I would like all who are reading this chapter, if they have not read what precedes, to glance over the story of the wife who remained on her knees thirteen hours by the side of a husband apparently dead, until he opened his eyes and went home with her, and I would be glad, also, if they would read the story of George Mueller's two friends, for whom he prayed sixty-two years. Perhaps these stories would more fittingly have come into this chapter but I was reminded of them at the time that I was writing the chapters in which they occur. They are so true and so blessed that really they would fit anywhere, so let me content myself with this reference and urge all who do not have those narratives well in mind, to become familiar with them, for they have an important bearing on the subject which is before us.

## Answers Delayed

The most remarkable instance of delayed answers to prayer which has come under my own observation was suggested by Mr. Moody in a sermon which he preached many years ago. He called our attention to the fact that when Moses was praying for the privilege of going over Jordan into the promised land, the Lord did not tell him that he could not go over the river. He said to him when the request was pressed: "Speak no more to me of this matter." That was not a refusal—that was a direction. Fifteen hundred years later Moses was in the Holy Land with Elijah, talking with our Lord about the work which He was to accomplish at Jerusalem. He did not cross over Jordan, as God told him he would not. He did go into the Holy Land, as he prayed that he might, but he went by way of Heaven.

Mr. Moody was speaking in this sermon of God's determination to answer prayer. I cannot remember the words which he said, but I remember very distinctly the impression which the facts produced. It was so wonderful to think that God should keep the prayer of Moses before Him all those 1500 years, and when He was to send down to the Mount of Transfiguration two redeemed ones to talk with His Son about the death which He was to die for their sins and for the sins of the whole world, He selected Moses and Elijah. It is my firm conviction that the Lord's people, if they will inquire among their friends who are spiritually minded folk, will be astounded at the number of cases in which God has answered prayer after long delay. As I have said before, this has not happened so and it is not the result of any inability on the part of God. He can work His own will at



Bob Jones University is interested in training Christian leaders. We, however, realize that life is not divided into the secular and the sacred; but for the Christian, as we have often said, every bush is a burning bush and all ground is holy ground. God called some people to be preachers and some to be school teachers, and He called some women to be wives and mothers. All fully consecrated Christians are in full-time Christian service. There is, however, a great need in this day for sound, well-trained, orthodox, soul-winning preachers—preachers who have conviction and who know what they believe and who are not afraid to stand for the old-time Gospel. This past school year we matriculated between 1,100 and 1,200 young men in our ministerial course. We are expecting a large enrollment of ministerial students during the next school year. This summer these ministerial students are all over America, and some are in foreign countries, and God is using them to win the lost to the Lord Jesus Christ. God does not call just preachers to be soul winners. He calls all Christians to be soul winners. It is not enough for Christians just to be witnesses for Christ. They should all become fishers of men.

A Christian school teacher has an unusual opportunity to win people to Christ. We have separation of church and state in America; and an intelligent, well-trained Christian understands his responsibility in the schoolroom. But a good, well-trained, Christian school teacher has an unusual opportunity in teaching Sunday School classes and singing in churches and in child evangelism and in personal work when visiting the homes to witness for the Lord Jesus Christ and to lead the lost to Him. Two years ago Bob Jones University's Future Teachers of America Chapter became the National Banner Chapter of the United States; and it is now, we understand, the largest Chapter in the United States. Since 1950 our University has required all of its teacher training graduates to take the National Teacher Examinations, and 92 per cent have made "A's," and the rest have made grades of "B." The outstanding achievement of the Bob Jones University students who took these examinations is shown not only by the large number of students receiving the grade of "A," but is also evidenced by the fact that for the four years since 1951, our mean scores have ranged up to 50 points higher than the national mean. Last year one Bob Jones University student made a score of 827, one of the three

highest scores out of nearly 10,000 in the United States and the highest score in South Carolina, where nearly 3,900 took the examinations. This year one of our students made a score of 826, which again was the highest score made in South Carolina. According to statistics released by the state director of the National Teacher Examinations, Bob Jones University examinees have ranked first in order of percentile over all the other colleges in the state of South Carolina for the four-year period from 1951 to 1954.

Bob Jones University does not say much about its high academic standards. It is so easy for even a Christian school to so focus attention on scholarship or efficiency or equipment that it will draw attention away from the first emphasis, which is the Christian emphasis. We believe that when the Lord Jesus Christ has first place in a school or a business or a home or a church or anywhere else that everything else takes its proper place. By the grace of God, we are more determined than ever to keep the emphasis on the Lord Jesus Christ. We are asking Christian friends everywhere to pray with us daily that Bob Jones University campus may continue to be a base of world-wide, fighting, aggressive, evangelistic, Gospel emphasis. We are also asking you, good, sound, orthodox Christian people to help us in the selection of our students. We want young men and young women who can be trained for courageous Christian leadership. Our problem is not a problem of getting enough students to overflow our dormitories and classrooms. We have a problem in this day, when there is so much satanic philosophy being propagated, to find young people who have the quality of Christian character necessary for courageous Christian leadership.

We are also counting on you Christian people who believe in the things for which Bob Jones University stands and for which it is willing to fight and if needs be suffer to make financial contributions to the work. You can help us by sending money for the Student Loan Endowment and Missionary Fund; or if you prefer, you can send the money to us to use where we feel we can best invest it at the time so as to do the most good to the most people. Whatever the Lord leads you to do will be greatly appreciated. Please let us hear from you, and God bless you.

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His own pleasure and in His own time. I heard the president of a university once say that God could use foolish people to accomplish His purpose, but that He never did so voluntarily. I was startled as I thought of the words of the Bible: "God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are" (I Cor. 1:27, 28).

God does choose the instruments which He uses. He does not take them from necessity. He takes them because of His own choice and God does not answer prayer after fifteen hundred years, or after seven years, or after fifteen years, or after sixty-two years because He could not answer in as many months if it pleased Him. There is a reason.

## The Reason

It is safe to say that in a majority of instances of long delay,

God has a number of purposes to accomplish. In the first place, it is a test of our own faith and obedience. He tells us always to pray and not to faint. Delays in answers to prayer are one means of testing us to know whether we can do this or not. It is also a wonderful confirmation of faith when the answer does come. If I receive a gift, after praying for it for ten years, my mind is impressed very differently from what it would be if I received the same gift after praying only ten minutes.

We shall never understand God's dealings with us here unless we remember that we came into the kingdom of God as babes and that He has to educate us, train us, raise us (if you allow the expression) precisely as parents have to train, educate, raise children. We are children and He is our Father. He is the Creator of our bodies but He is the Father of our souls and He wishes us to be strong and pure and holy and useful, just as any good father wishes his children to be. To this end He disciplines and one of the ways in

(Continued on page 10)





## Jack Shuler Campaign, May 2-23, Joplin, Missouri

### WITH THE Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

By the Editor

Sword of the Lord **EVANGELIST JOE B. RICE** conducted a wonderful revival campaign with the Baptist Church of Gray, Maine, March 30 through April 11. Rev. Harold Small is pastor of this growing church. During the campaign, there were 25 straight-out conversions. There were also 7 rededications and 8 families pledged to begin daily devotions. The evangelist, pastor, and church felt that God graciously blessed with His power during the meeting.

Brother Joe conducted a revival campaign with the Village Baptist Church of Fort Edward, New York, March 16-28. This report has been delayed in reaching us, but we do want our readers to know about it. Rev. Howard Starratt is pastor. There were 20 first-time decisions for Christ and 10 rededications during this good revival campaign.

**EVANGELIST DAN VESTAL**, Box 6214, Seminary Hill, Fort Worth, Texas closed a two weeks' meeting with the Immanuel Baptist Church, Odessa, Texas, April 18. Forty-six were received as candidates for baptism, eleven by letter, and many rededications. Rev. J. B. Dolan is pastor.

**EVANGELIST W. F. COUCH** of 811 N. Jefferson Street, Magnolia, Arkansas, was recently in two revivals in Memphis, Tennessee. In the Kennedy Baptist Church March 28-April 11, God blessed and 48 joined the church, 22 of them for baptism, and 20 transfers of membership. April 12-18 the evangelist was with Barton Heights Baptist Church, where there were 16 additions to the church, 15 for baptism, and one transfer of membership.

Sword of the Lord **EVANGELIST EDDIE WAGNER** conducted a fine revival campaign with the First Baptist Church of Somoneuk, Illinois. Rev. Robert Shermer, pastor. During the campaign, there were 24 conversions and 41 rededications. There were many other decisions by Christians for a closer walk with God, confessing and forsaking sinful habits. The pastor writes that the church enjoyed a large congrega-

tion from the opening night and that Evangelist Wagner's sermons were "potent and convicting."

Brother Wagner conducted a revival campaign with the Mont Clare Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois, April 20 through May 2. A letter to Evangelist Bill Rice from Mr. Wagner says:

"Those converted in this meeting included five Catholics, four of these were saved the night I preached on Hell. Two of these Catholics have played in a dance band for twenty years, and it was thrilling to have them in the service on Sunday night, just five days after they came to Christ, playing a saxophone duet for the glory of God.

"The Holy Spirit really spoke to many of the Christians, and a real revival was started... Christians confessed faults to one another, forsook sin in their lives, and many of them laid aside habits like smoking and other sins of Christians.

"In one service there were fourteen different nationalities represented."

There were 12 conversions and 37 rededications during this revival campaign.

Brother Wagner has just concluded a revival campaign with the Immanuel Baptist Church of Monticello, Kentucky. Rev. Donald Randolph is pastor of this good church. During the meetings, there were twelve regular services and 47 conversions, 55 rededications, 75 who promised to tithe, and other decisions by Christian people. According to Evangelist Wagner, the pastor is a Bob Jones graduate, is doing a splendid job in the community, and his stand for Christ is honored in the town. Clayton Booth of Seattle, Washington, led the singing, and his work was outstanding. This evangelistic team was invited to the high school and on two different occasions they were invited to the Kiwanas Club to speak. These meetings were written up in the first page of the local newspaper.

**EVANGELIST DEL FEHSENFELD** of 4521 Jarboe, Kansas City, Missouri, sent us his schedule

It happened in Joplin, Missouri! Not in thirty-six years had so much interest been shown in mass evangelism or such solid church support been given to a united revival effort in this city as to the Jack Shuler Evangelistic Campaign, May 2-23. More than fifty ministers of twenty denominations including Southern Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Nazarene, Assembly of God, Christian, Four-square and others, comprise the cooperating league which sponsored the three weeks crusade with the Jack Shuler Team at Memorial Auditorium. Extra chairs were brought in to accommodate an overflow crowd when the meetings were just eight days old, swelling the 2,400 capacity to more than 3,000. Consistent crowds came nightly the second week and people were standing in every available spot the second week end.

This report was written at the beginning of the third week, and already the recorded decisions for Christ had gone over five hundred. One hundred thirty-eight dedicated their lives for full-time Christian service. Three hundred forty-two indicated that they have received Christ as Saviour.

The Crusade Choir, numbering two hundred thirty voices, was an

outstanding feature of the revival under the direction of Don DeVos. Sammy Allred, soloist, and Bob Andersen, musician, have helped to keep the music program on a high spiritual plane.

The \$12,500 budget was raised by the end of the second week, and a substantial amount is being left with the cooperating ministers to foster a future campaign. One night's offering has been given to the "Big Brothers" organization which ministers to delinquent children.

The Joplin Globe, Joplin's daily newspaper, wrote a full report of every service and gave front-page publicity to the campaign every day. The team was heard daily on radio and television and appeared before most of the high schools and junior high schools of the vicinity. Every fourth decision has been that of a teenager.

The campaign was scheduled to come to a close on May 23rd, although a move was afoot to hold the team in Joplin for an additional week if suitable accommodations for the increasing crowds can be secured. The Jack Shuler team began its next crusade in the 2,700 chair City Auditorium at Independence, Kansas on June 13th.

for the next few months. It is as follows:

June 13-27, United Effort, Parish, N. D.

July 9-18, First Baptist, Marietta, Texas

July 20-August 1, Bethany Baptist, Lockwood, Missouri

August 4-8, Cowboy Encampment, Willcox, Arizona

September 7-19, Emmanuel Baptist, Rolla, Missouri

September 21-October 3, First Baptist, Avenal, California

**DR. HARRY McCORMICK LINTZ** of 1111 W. Sunset Drive, Redlands, California, recently conducted a series of evangelistic services in the historic First Baptist Church of San Francisco, California, where Dr. Lewis Julianel has been pastor more than 25 years. Commenting on the campaign, the pastor said, "From the standpoint of productiveness for the church, this has been the most fruitful meeting that we have had in our church in many years. We are receiving at least 75 members upon profession of faith and by baptism and transfer of letter as a result of these two weeks under the ministry of Dr. Lintz and Dr. Woodhouse (Dr. John Woodhouse, Youth for Christ director, St. Petersburg, Fla., who was in charge of the music for the campaign). This meeting has gone deep into the hearts and homes of our church people."

Dr. Lintz then went to Norfolk, Virginia, for a brief but highly successful Crusade in the Tabernacle Church and is currently in a great union campaign in Martinsville, Virginia, which will be followed by another union effort in Van Wert, Ohio, where he was a year ago. He requests the prayers of God's people in behalf of these evangelistic efforts.

The whole town was moved and stirred by the ministry of **EVAN-**

**GELIST MAX MORRIS** of Dothan, Alabama, while in revival services at First Baptist Church, Granbury, Texas. The results showed 48 additions to the church by baptism, 20 by letter and statement, two other professions who did not unite with the church, and many reconsecrations. The pastor, Rev. Lewis A. Drummond, says, "I consider Brother Morris one of America's outstanding young evangelists."

**EVANGELIST FREDDIE GAGE** of Houston, Texas, and song leader Jimmy Snellen led the Second Baptist Church of Jacinto City, Texas, in a recent week end revival. According to the pastor, Rev. Wendell M. Johnson, 25 received Christ as Saviour, 9 joined the church by letter, and there were 11 rededications.

**EVANGELIST BILL THOMAS** of 412½ N. Johnson, Mineola, Texas, writes that the last two weeks in April he was at the Field St. Baptist Church, Cleburne, Texas, where God added 33 to the church; there were 26 conversions for Christ, and many, many rededications. Pastor Jeff Moore writes: "Our church has had one of the greatest revivals since I have been pastor... I would commend him as a preacher of God's Word with a compassionate appeal."

Then he was with the Willow Grove Baptist Church, Moody, Texas, where Pastor Phil Connell says that though the time was short and visible results negligible, it was a time of stirring among his people.

The Broadstreet Baptist Church, Washington, Pennsylvania, was the scene of a gracious revival April 25-May 9 with **EVANGELIST CHARLES B. CUNNINGHAM** of P. O. Box 1811, Chattanooga, Tennessee, and C. Leroy Sheveland,

chalk artist. Pastor T. Fred Wolfe reported that over 100 decisions for Christ were evidenced with several outstanding conversions noted. Several husbands and wives were saved, drink habits were broken, and a true spirit of revival prevailed throughout the two weeks. There were overflow crowds at nearly every service, and the entire city became conscious of the revival effort through daily news write-ups covering the campaign. The afternoon children's meetings held in conjunction with the evening services witnessed a daily average attendance of 215.

The editor is glad to have a fine report from **EVANGELIST EDDIE MARTIN**, of 2036 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. May 12 he wrote that he had begun a tent campaign in Paris, Texas, averaging four services daily. "Two and three programs a day have enabled us to reach over 5,000 young people during the past eight days," he writes. 134 responded to the invitation at Paris Sunday night, May 9. He further adds: "We had a tremendous meeting in Dyersburg, Tennessee, which closed April 25. We met in the high school gym with seating capacity of 2,250. This we filled the first night of the campaign. On the second Sunday night, we filled the gym and the auditorium of the First Baptist Church at the same time, in the city's first double-header evangelistic service. On the third Sunday night in two identical services in the gym we saw the gym filled completely with crowds that numbered close to 5,000 people—this in a city with 8,500 population! Hundreds and hundreds of choice decisions were made. I will send a complete report with some unusual pictures in the very near future."

**EVANGELIST FRANK HARPPELL**, 139 North Street, Stoneham 80, Massachusetts, wrote May 10, about his recent revivals. From March 30-April 11 he was at the oldest Baptist Church in Canada, in Sackville, N. B., pastored by Rev. G. Mantee Wilson. There they saw 20 professed conversions. From there he and his helpful wife went to North Brookfield Baptist Church, North Brookfield, New York (April 15-25). The pastor here, Rev. Richard Slater, reports 16 professions of faith in the services and in the homes. April 28-May 9 the evangelist was at the Baptist Church in Cobleskill, New York, where God gave 13 first-time decisions. The pastor here is Rev. John Brown.

Sword of the Lord **EVANGELIST JIMMIE THRELFALL** conducted a revival campaign with the West Chicago Baptist Church of Detroit, Michigan, March 29 through April 11. There were 18 recorded conversions and 22 rededications. Rev. Kenneth Mitchell is pastor. There were 13 conversions the closing day of the campaign.

Sword of the Lord **EVANGELIST J. OSCAR WELLS** has just completed a good revival campaign in Dallas, Texas, with the Hickory Street Baptist Church, whose pastor is Rev. R. J. Simpson. During the campaign, there were 49 additions to the church, 150 rededications, and 17 families to begin family altars. The pastor writes that they are still experiencing the results of the meeting with conversions and additions to the church right along.

Brother Wells has just completed a splendid revival campaign in Buffalo Junction, Virginia. The Rev. Eugene Wood is pastor of this fine church. During the campaign there were forty conversions and additions to the church. There were also 86 definite rededications and 20 families to begin daily devotions. The smallest attendance during the campaign was 275, and the attendance built up to 450. We rejoice with the good pastor over this good revival.

A letter has just come to Evangelist Bill Rice, director of the Sword Staff of Evangelists, concerning Sword of the Lord **EVANGELIST LLOYD BARDOWELL**. The letter is as follows: "Dear Bill:

"Just a word of real appreciation (Continued on page 6)

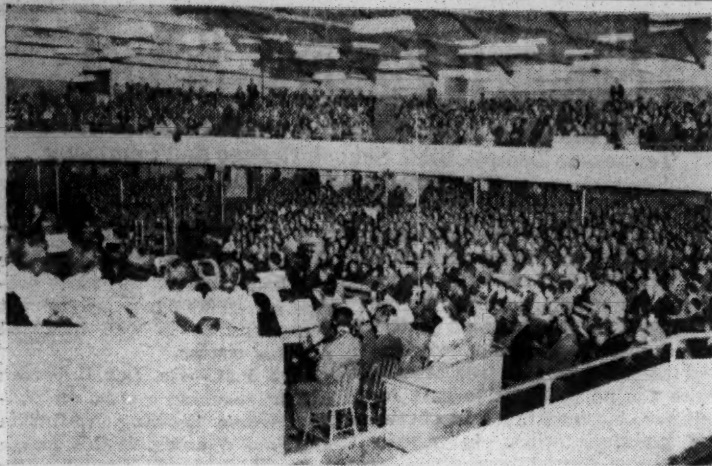
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A portion of the crowd at the dedication of the new Prairie tabernacle, April 13, 1954. This Prairie tabernacle is located at the Prairie Bible Institute, Three Hills, Alberta, Canada. It was packed to capacity on different occasions during the 32nd Annual Missionary Conference April 11-18, 1954.

## Noteworthy NEWS Notes

### Prairie Dedicates Tabernacle

The 32nd Annual Convention of the Prairie Bible Institute witnessed the dedication of one of the largest religious auditoriums in Canada on Tuesday, April 13th. The hour-long dedication service was broadcast over Calgary radio station CFCN with Evangelist Jim Vaus bringing the message.

Here in a prairie town with volunteer labor and a lumber camp operated by the Institute nearby in the foothills of the Rockies, the building was erected for an out-of-pocket cost of \$100,000. The Tabernacle seating thousands is paid for entirely.

Among the highlights of the Convention was the pledge service, in which \$84,750.20 was pledged for foreign missions. This is the highest amount ever to be pledged here at an Annual Convention. Missionary speakers included Stanley Plunkett, Regions Beyond Missionary Union; Tommy Titcombe, Sudan Interior Mission; Henry Owen, China Inland Mission; Miriam Wheeler, European Evangelistic Crusade; Roy Bergquist, West Indies Mission; and W. R. Overgaard, World-wide Evangelization Crusade.

Friday, April 16, 118 seniors received their diplomas with the new tabernacle packed to capacity. Many of these graduates are looking to the mission field. These students represented five Canadian provinces, 22 U. S. states, and five foreign countries.

Some 1,910 guests from afar were housed at the Institute. They came from eight provinces, 23 states, and four foreign countries.

On the closing Sunday afternoon, 51 candidates were presented by the 29 missionary societies represented at the Convention.

All of this is made more remarkable by the fact that Prairie

is located in the town of Three Hills which has a population of only 1,250 and is 85 miles from any center of population.

### Kansas City Bible College Elects New President

The Board of Directors of the Kansas City Bible College, Kansas City, Missouri, announce the following changes in administration: Dr. Walter L. Wilson, President Emeritus

Dr. Robert H. Belton, President  
Mr. Roy Hornberg, Treasurer  
Mr. Hubert Schmidt, Secretary  
Dr. Wilson is retiring after serving as president seventeen years. He will continue in the pastorate of the Central Bible Church in Kansas City, and also in his Bible conference ministry.

The new president, Dr. Belton, served for the past three years as Executive Vice President. He is a member of the Kansas City Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church. For a number of years he was chaplain of the Berry Schools at Mt. Berry, Georgia, and was head of the department of Bible and Philosophy in Berry College.

Northwestern Schools' A Cappella Choir and Concert Band under the direction of Professor William B. Berntsen recently returned from their fourteen-state tour. The group, consisting of sixty-eight musicians, gave concerts in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and nine other states.

Dr. Richard A. Elvee, president of the Northwestern Schools Liberal Arts College, Theological Seminary and Bible College, accompanied the group on its twenty-one day tour.

WHEATON, ILLINOIS—An enlarged and completely revamped Youth for Christ Magazine will be published starting with the July issue as one of the events marking the 10th anniversary of the interdenominational youth movement which has now reached into 79 countries and colonies.

Page size will be increased from Readers Digest size to that of Time magazine, according to the announcement from Dr. Robert A. Cook, president of Youth for Christ.

New departments include one on music by George Beverly Shea, a youth salutes feature which will recognize achievement of youth in all fields, a youth news digest, and others.

Dr. Carl Armerding, professor of Bible and theology at Wheaton college since 1948 and pastor of the College Church of Christ, has been elected president of the Central American Mission. The announcement was made by the executive council of the CAM at their annual meeting held in Dallas, Texas, April 12 and 13. Dr. Armerding succeeds Dr. Karl D. Hummel, who was compelled to retire from the office because of ill health.

Seven new faces will make their

## Book Reviews

BOOK REVIEWS IN THIS COLUMN WILL USUALLY BE BY JUDGES OF THE SWORD BOOK CLUB AND WILL BE SIGNED.

**THE SERVANT OF JEHOVAH**, by David Baron, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan. 158 pages, \$2.95.

This tremendous work is a thrilling and informative exposition of the last three verses of the 52nd chapter of Isaiah and the 53rd chapter. Everything I have ever read from the pen of David Baron has shown a wide knowledge of the Word of God and has offered a deep and penetrating analysis of Scriptural truth. This is scholarly without being dry. Baron refutes the argument that the passage refers to suffering Israel, bolstering his arguments with quotations from rabbinical sources and from references to history. This is a volume that will be of interest not only to the evangelical Christian theologian but to Jewish theologians as well, and a means of presenting them with the truth.

BOB JONES, JR.

**DANIEL AND THE LATTER DAYS**, by Robert D. Culver. Fleming H. Revell Company, Westwood, New Jersey. 221 pages, \$2.50.

Dr. Culver has given us an excellent study in Millennialism. This should be read by every premillennialist for a better understanding of this Bible doctrine. This volume should be read by every honest amillennialist and post-millennialist. The book is well written. The bibliography indicates that the author has given thorough study to the subject of millennialism. As might be expected, no one could agree with every statement and interpretation of this book, but I believe that it is worthwhile reading for any student of the Word.

LEE ROBERSON

**PHILIPPIANS: Where Life Advances**, by Dr. Roy L. Laurin. Van Kampen Press. 208 pages, \$3.

Roy Laurin has the happy faculty of putting more content per page into his writings than most anybody I know. The Scriptures are analyzed, understood, and explained with rare clarity and conciseness; and always stimulate the mind and strengthen the heart. The letter to the Philippians becomes a challenge and dynamic for the Christian life with its emphasis on salvation, conduct, trust, peace and goal. Eminently helpful and satisfying.

V. RAYMOND EDMAN

**THE QUEST FOR COMMUNION WITH GOD**, by Matthew Henry. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan. 110 pages, \$1.50.

This book was written by Matthew Henry who wrote the greatest devotional commentary ever published. The book is written in three parts. In the first one, he discusses how to begin the day with God. Here he advances many arguments for early morning Bible study and devotion that have proved refreshing and good for me. Part two is a discussion of how to spend the day with God—how to bear the burdens of the day, how to be submissive to God's will, how to be conscious of the presence of God even while going about the duties of the day. The third part shows how to close the day with God in preparation for the night season. This book, although written in the style of a by-gone day, is clear and sweet and refreshing. It will help many

appearance in the Northwestern Seminary class rooms, it was announced by Dr. G. Douglas Young, new seminary dean. These will include Dr. Richard A. Elvee, who has his Doctor of Education with emphasis on counseling and guidance; William B. Berntsen, church music; Loren Bridges, techniques in radio broadcasting; Leroy Gager, the pastor-his own evangelist; Mark Lee, homiletics and speech; Jean Makas, writing; and Frances Simpson, Christian Education.

## Acadia University Professor Denies Bible

The Halifax Chronicle and Herald recently had a news item in which Dr. C. B. Lumsden, professor of Biblical literature in Acadia University, denied the authority of the Bible. Acadia University is the official Baptist school supported by Baptists of the Maritime Provinces of Canada. Dr. Lumsden is not only professor of Biblical literature, but is "recently appointed financial agent and executive secretary to the governors of Acadia." Speaking in the March supper meeting of the First Baptist Church Men's Institute held in the church hall, Dr. Lumsden is quoted as saying, "The Bible is not an infallible guide given us by God. Instead, it is a book which sets down the principles by which we should make our own decisions. If the Bible were an infallible book it would be deadly. There are religions, such as Mohammedism, which is bound to a book, and which lead to a halt in progress."

For any man who draws a salary from Bible-believing Christian people to deny the authority and accuracy of the Bible is wicked dishonesty. A man may have a right to be an infidel; no man has a right to be an infidel paid by Christian money.

We think it perfectly proper for infidels who like that kind of teaching to support Dr. Lumsden and Acadia University. But we think it is a sin for Bible-believing Christians to ever send one penny of money to support such a man or school.

Here is a clear example of the danger and harm of requiring Christians to support a denominational program without designation. Every Christian is accountable to God for seeing that his gifts go to a place that will honor God. To give, undesignated, or without investigation, to support a place that turns out unbelievers

in the Bible and in Christ, is a sin. Every Christian should insist upon designating gifts to known causes, and never give a dime to a whole program which includes any modernism whatever.

Again, this shows the folly of requiring Christians to give all tithes through the local church. Many churches are led by their pastors and by denominational leaders to support causes which are wrong, which are actually infidel causes. Anyone who sends money to support a man like Dr. Lumsden, of Acadia Baptist University, who says that "the Bible is not an infallible guide given us by God" are guilty of the sin of aiding infidelity, of opposing Christ and the Bible. So every Christian should solemnly decide that his tithes and his offerings must be given only under the clear leading of the Lord, and that where they go cannot be decided by a pastor or financial committee or denominational secretaries. The whole idea of "storehouse tithing" whereby people are urged that all their tithes must be given through a local church treasury is contrary to the Bible and leads to sin. "The tithe is the Lord's. It does not belong to denominational leaders, does not belong to the pastor, does not belong to the church, and certainly none of it should ever be given in a way that will support modernism. And every Christian must give an account to God for where his gifts go. Every Christian must give "as he purposeth in his heart," according to Scripture, and not as the pastor or denominational leader purports.

— THE END —

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## Evangelist Eddie Martin, Dyersburg, Tenn., April 11-23

We rejoice in the blessed campaign held by Evangelist Eddie Martin of 2036 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in Dyersburg, Tennessee, sponsored by the Dyer-Baptist Association of churches in the high school gymnasium. The gymnasium (crowd pictured above) is reported to seat 2,250. Easter Sunday morning some 2,500 people were in the football stadium for a special Sunrise Service. Easter Sunday night there was an overflow service at the First Baptist Church, filling the auditorium. The closing Sunday night the gymnasium was filled twice for two entirely separate serv-

ices—at 6:00 p.m. and at 7:30 p.m.

In the first week of the crusade, Evangelist Eddie Martin spoke in assemblies in every high school and junior college in the city and county to some 4,500 young people.

Dyersburg has a population of only 8,500. Over 450 people responded to the invitation and were personally dealt with in the inquiry room. Pastors report that hundreds have been baptized already and that attendance in the churches which cooperated is at an all-time high.

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## With The Evangelists

(Continued from page 4)

tion for Lloyd Bardowell. He has the power of God upon him, and we had a great revival in our church with him.

"I am sure the church will never be the same again—it has been transformed... There were eleven first-time decisions for Christ (in the church services) and in all we had sixteen additions to the church, eight of them adults, three complete families which greatly strengthened our church.

"On the closing Sunday of the revival we broke all previous attendance records in Sunday School.

"Bardowell is a powerful preacher, a man of much prayer, and a master at personal soul winning. He won a man in his home to Christ who was about fifty-five years old. He was a businessman that I made an appointment with

to meet Bardowell. This man was not included in the above figures.

"We had three prison services. In an intermediate reformatory out of 325 young men about 85 came forward on a clean-cut decision for Christ. Out of two other prison services about 20 decisions were made for Christ.

"Thanks again for sending me Bardowell.

"In Christ's name."

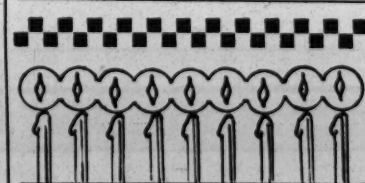
(Signed) Alfred O. Thornton  
Calvary Baptist Church  
Jefferson City, Missouri

Sword of the Lord EVANGELIST LLOYD BARDOWELL has just completed a wonderful revival campaign with the Calvary Community Church in Statesville, North Carolina. Rev. Homer A. Klinsing is the pastor.

The campaign began March 14 and closed on the 28th—two full weeks. During this time there were 65 conversions, 49 rededications, and many other decisions of one kind and another made by Christians.

EVANGELIST PHIL SHULER conducted a revival in the small rural Jackson Chapel Methodist Church, Columbus, Ohio, April 14-April 26. The pastor, Rev. E. Wesley Woodruff, reports 65 conversions and 10 rededications, and 5 young people responding to the call for full-time Christian service. Additions to the church up to May 2 totalled fifteen; with others yet to come. The pastor commends this good evangelist.

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## Summer Pastors' School

By Rev. Ben A. Byrd, Asst. to Dr. Lee Roberson  
Tennessee Temple Bible School, College and Seminary  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

July 20-30 is the time set apart for the Pastors' Summer School at Tennessee Temple, Chattanooga. As announced before, free rooms will be offered to all pastors and full-time Christian workers and their wives. We regret that there are no facilities to care for children, but assistance in obtaining accommodations in nearby motels and tourist homes will be given to any requesting it.

Many, many pastors need a good, brief refresher course in soul-winning, visitation, Sunday School building, or in evangelism, homiletics or Bible. This summer school at Tennessee Temple will afford these blessings. Courses may be taken for Bible institute or seminary credit by those who take examinations or audited without the exams if preferred. But each one is expected to register and attend regularly.

The program will include the following:

9:10 A.M.—First classes for preachers on Prophecy, taught by Dr. Mark G. Cambron; on Homiletics by Professor Douglas Cravens; or study in Ephesians.

10:30 A.M.—The Chapel Service will be conducted featuring great preaching.

11:05 A.M.—Immediately following the chapel service, Dr. John R. Rice will teach a class on "How to Have a Revival." Dr. Rice has perhaps done more than any other one man in bringing back city-wide revival campaigns and in emphasizing

mass evangelism in America. He has had some of the most successful campaigns of recent years and so is well qualified for this course.

1:15 P.M.—Dr. Lee Roberson will be teaching a class on Sunday School Building, Visitation and Soul Winning. In this course he will describe an adequate church visitation program and its relationship to a great Sunday School. He will also tell how to win a soul. His messages will be informative and inspiring to many pastors who need a new vision for doing God's work.

Along with these courses there will be time for sight-seeing and relaxation. Also, many people will be interested in seeing the various arms of the Highland Park Baptist Church, which is one of the largest churches in the world. Such places as Camp Joy, where last year 1,111 boys and girls were taken to camp for a week; Union Gospel Rescue Mission, which is open every night of the year and serves transient men; a typical chapel will also be on the itinerary for the first week. Each evening of the second week there will be inspirational services.

If you are a pastor, evangelist or other full-time worker and have not written for your reservation, do so at once because the regular summer school enrollment apparently will reach an all-time high this summer. Address your reservation to Tennessee Temple Schools, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

## Preaching ~ Power ~ Promotion



"...the word of the Lord... Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."—Zech. 4:6

By Dr. D. A. (Scotchie) McCall  
Minister of Revival Promotion,  
Sword of the Lord Foundation

### I. August 1st That Great Day

On August 1st the \$44,000 final payment falls due upon the property forming the permanent site for the Sword of the Lord building. We do not doubt it will stand until Jesus comes.

The weeks between now and then can just about be counted upon the fingers of ONE hand. That means the time grows short. The time is upon us. The \$44,000 balance MUST be in hand August 1, 1954.

Thousands of you who always respond will write a signal victory, I have no doubt. Doxology!

### II.

#### A Thrill—Soul Winning

Soul winning brings a thrill nothing else does. I have carried a football across a goal line on a university team. It did not bring the thrill that winning a soul brings. That is the reason I have travelled many more miles in soul winning than in playing football. And, I have travelled but travel for the sake of travel becomes dull and prosaic—but soul winning never! I have ridden an elephant, a camel around the Sphinx, a donkey about Jerusalem, freight trains, log trains, streamliners, a jinrikisha, hand car, push car, railroad, bicycle, a wheelbarrow, and piloted airplanes, BUT—the variety and thrills there are not comparable to winning lost souls.

People talk about the preachers they like and don't like but they don't win souls. Preachers play politics and gossip about one another but some never win souls.

Churches are stacked up with committees and meetings but are mighty thin on soul winners. A fine young layman friend has just

told me, "I am president of this, director of that, and superintendent of something else until I have little time for my family and none for soul winning."

At Superior, Wisconsin, while giving the invitation I saw a young wife speaking to her husband. I felt she was urging him to accept Christ. He did not. After the service I motioned them to the front. They came. I spoke to him briefly about his soul and the Saviour, about sin and salvation, giving him Scriptures. He accepted Christ! His were tears of joy! How differently to a wife who sheds bitter tears over the cruelty of a hellish husband!

Even some preachers, as well as some laymen, get no thrill out of folks being saved. All they see is the \$ mark! May God help!

At Duluth, Minnesota, in the Bethel Society I spoke to men on the Scripture, Acts 4:12. A man confessed Christ! What a thrill!

At Evans, Kentucky, I spoke to a man whom all thought lost. I felt led to ask him if he had ever trusted Jesus for salvation. He said, "Oh, yes, years ago. I lived happily. Then I backslid and I was not going to be a hypocrite so I forsook the church." I gave him what Jesus said in John 10:28-30 showing him that Jesus is not so easily shaken off. I pleaded with him to renew his consecration to the Lord. He did! People seeing us talking came pouring back into the church building as the news ran like wild-fire, "Tom has taken a stand." He was a big mountaineer who just wouldn't be a hypocrite!

Yes, there is a thrill indeed in soul winning. Why do we do so little of it when it was about the first—Matthew 4:19—and the last—Acts 1:8—word of Jesus?



Arley Bragg

Harold Wildish



Ruth Ohman

Bill Ohman

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# A Word About Campaign Statistics

By Dr. C. T. Cook, Editor,  
in the British Magazine, THE CHRISTIAN, Reporting  
on the Billy Graham Campaign

"The number of disciples multiplied..."—Acts 6:1.

The thoughts of many of those who attend the Harringay Arena must often be carried back to the Acts of the Apostles, especially when inquirers stream forward not by scores but by hundreds. As Luke unfolds the story of Apostolic evangelism he records again and again how "the number of the disciples multiplied greatly."

## 25,000 Inquirers

Up to Saturday evening last, completing the tenth week of the Greater London Crusade, just over 25,000 people of all ages had come forward at the Harringay Arena, and had subsequently been personally dealt with by trained counselors in the inquiry room. In addition

there have been hundreds of inquirers at relayed services in provincial cities and at meetings personally conducted by members of the team in various parts of London and elsewhere.

Billy Graham has stated repeatedly that no claim is made that all these people are converts. About twenty-five per cent of them are backsliders who have professed to have returned to Christ, or Christians who feel that their lives have not been fully and unreservedly dedicated to their Lord. The other seventy-five per cent have never previously made a profession of Christ and a large proportion of them have no church

connection whatsoever. How many of these will "endure to the end" only time and eternity will show.

## Statistics in Scripture

Occasionally one hears of Christian people who openly deprecate anything in the nature of a statistical record in relation to evangelism. It seems to have escaped their observation that the inspired writers of the New Testament saw nothing objectionable in "counting heads." We are told that our Lord fed a congregation of 5,000, and at another time 4,000. Luke is very precise in recording that 276 souls owed their lives to Paul's presence and testimony on the stormy voyage to Rome. Paul mentions the impressive fact that the Risen Lord appeared "to above five hundred brethren at once." Luke, again, records that there were 120 people on whom the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost, and that the Lord "added" to that company about 3,000 souls immediately following Peter's sermon that day. A little later "the number of the men" that believed came to be "about 5,000."

It is a strange idea if the same careful attention to detail is given to the Lord's work as to a well-conducted business, and especially if steps are taken to ensure that statistics of inquirers are accurate and not vague guesswork, that there must be something uninspiritual about it. One reason why the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association decided years ago to publish the figures of those personally dealt with was in order to correct the wild guesses of American reporters who sometimes counted in the counselors among the "converts." Nobody suggests that the list of names at the Gate-street office is a transcript of "the Lamb's Book of Life"; but neither would any minister claim the same for his roll of communicants.

We give the above with grateful acknowledgment to our English contemporary magazine, THE CHRISTIAN.

## Further London Crusade Report

On May 8, the Billy Graham headquarters in London sent us the following report:

Evangelist Billy Graham saw two significant figures reached in the statistics of the Greater London Crusade this week—the first was a total attendance at the Crusade meetings of more than one million persons (1,068,680); the second was a total response to the invitation of more than 25,000 persons who have recorded their decisions for Christ (25,149). The million point in total attendance was reached and passed on Thursday night of the tenth week; the 25,000 point in decisions for Christ was reached at the second Crusade meeting on Saturday at the close of the tenth week. The totals in both instances refer only to regular Crusade meetings, and do not include the extra, outside meetings at which Billy Graham and other Team members have been speaking during the Crusade days.

Two more weeks remain before the closing meeting on Saturday, May 22. Plans for the final meetings have already been altered and enlarged as interest in the Crusade has mounted steadily during the past few weeks. First plans called for the final meeting to be held in the Wembley Stadium, site of the 1948 Olympic Games. Within two weeks of the announcement of the Wembley meeting, the 100,000 capacity of the huge oval was filled completely by chartered bus and train groups. London's second largest stadium, the White City Stadium, has been engaged giving an additional capacity for the final day of 70,000. The White City meeting will begin at 3:00 in the afternoon, with the Wembley meeting following at 6:00 in the evening. The British Broadcasting Company has announced this week that the Wembley meeting will be broadcast on a nationwide network basis, thus reaching several million persons by radio.

During the past two weeks of the Crusade meetings at the Harringay Arena a deepening of spiritual interest has been noted, and at no meeting for two weeks has the response to the invitation been less than 400 persons nightly. In addition, through the relay system whereby the meetings are transmitted to auditoriums and halls in cities throughout Great Britain,

# Gideons Carry Bible To U.S. Supreme Court

Noted Bible Distribution Group Appeals New Jersey Decision Forbidding Distribution of Testaments to School Children

By Rev. Walter E. Handford

For many years the Gideons International organization has been doing a tremendous piece of work in getting Gideon Bibles into hotels, hospitals and schools. Many a traveling person has found Christ through reading a copy of the Bible which this group placed in a hotel room.

As a part of their program for distributing over 3 million Bibles, an offer was made to the Rutherford, New Jersey school board offering distribution of Gideon New Testaments including Psalms and Proverbs. The Gideons proposed to give one of their Testaments to all children whose parents signed a slip permitting them to do so. The school board voted three to one in favor of accepting the offer of The Gideons' organization.

Immediately, a Jewish rabbi and a Roman Catholic priest objected to the board's granting permission to give these Gideon Testaments free to those who asked for them. The school board then obtained advice from its lawyers. The lawyers said that the board was completely within its legal rights. When the slips were passed out 615 children out of approximately 2200 in the Rutherford, New Jersey school requested a copy of the Gideon Testament.

Bernard Tudor, the parent of a child attending the public school in Rutherford brought suit against the school board to have the free distribution of these Testaments stopped. Tudor, a Jew, objected to the distribution of the Testaments claiming that, even though it was distributed only to those who requested it, there was religious persecution involved. He held that the King James Bible was a sectarian book and violated the religious liberty guaranteed him by the I and XIV Amendments to the Constitution.

When the matter came to trial, the Superior Court of the State upheld the school board's right to allow distribution of the New Testament. When the matter went to the Supreme Court of the State of New Jersey, they reversed the decision on the following grounds:

1. That there was religious persecution involved.
2. That the specific purpose of The Gideons' organization was to convert people to faith in Jesus Christ.
3. That the King James Version of the Scriptures was a sectarian book and violated the religious liberty guaranteed the public school students in Rutherford.

Some months ago you probably saw in THE SWORD OF THE LORD that The Gideons' organization had taken the matter now to the United States Supreme Court. Mr. Jacob Stam, a lawyer from Paterson, New Jersey, is in charge of the case for the Gideons' organization. A short time ago Mr. Stam wrote to me and asked that we acquaint you with the facts in this case because it has national importance for all of us who believe the Bible, and believe that our free use of the Scriptures ought to be protected. Mr. Stam has been for years a good friend of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. He was the one who carried our tax case to the Treasury Department in 1949 and has since represented

hundreds of additional decisions for Christ are being recorded each week. So great has been the interest in the relay system, that on many nights more people are listening to the meetings in other cities than in the Harringay Arena itself.

Several European cities have been selected for a tour of the Continent following the London crusade. Evangelistic meetings are now scheduled in Helsinki, Finland; Stockholm, Sweden; Copenhagen, Denmark; Amsterdam, Holland; Dusseldorf and Berlin, Germany; and Paris, France. In Helsinki and Berlin the Olympic Stadium will be used; in the other cities sports stadiums or civic auditoriums will be utilized for the meetings.



Mr. Jacob Stam

us on important matters. He is an earnest soul-winning Christian business man who deserves our complete support in this important matter.

## No Evidence of Religious Persecution

The New Jersey Supreme Court based much of its ruling prohibiting the distribution of the Gideon Testament on a voluntary basis largely on the charge of religious persecution. However, there was no evidence of any possible religious persecution in this case. The Tudor child was only one of 1,585 in the Rutherford Public Schools who did not choose to accept a copy of the Gideon Testament. The fact that he was a Jew did not have anything to do with the case. On page 39 of his petition to the United States Supreme Court, Mr. Stam gives an excellent answer to the charge of religious persecution.

"It is because we are mindful of these things and their inalienable rights under the Constitution that we would never compel them to read all of the Word of God, including the New Testament. We believe that in their desire and rightly so, to protect their oft persecuted people, and to prevent by all means all possible beginnings of any new persecution, they have in their zeal mistaken the cause of persecution and mistaken the means of preventing it. The stand they take here is to use the fear of possible persecution as an instrument or reason for oppression and deprivation of the rights of others. By this action in this case we believe that they are cutting off their own best insurance against persecution."

"Where have the Jewish people suffered their worst persecution? Has it not been in godless and anti-God Russia where the Bible has been spurned? Has it not been under Hitler in Germany where a hundred years before so-called 'higher critics' began to cast doubt upon the historicity and the authenticity of the Bible, and doubting divines having sown the seeds of doubt and denial, prepared the soil for Hitler's Aryan ascendancy, Bible banishing and mass murder of the Jewish people? Has not their best protection and refuge been in Bible-loving Holland... and in Bible-based America where by official proclamation of President F. D. Roosevelt, a Bible-recommending President, these United States were thrown open as a refuge to countless Jewish displaced persons?"

## Gideons' Purpose Not a Factor

In the court trial before the New Jersey Supreme Court, the fact that the purpose of The Gideons is "to win men and women for the Lord Jesus Christ" was brought out. Lawyer Stam rightly contends that it is the character of the Book which is being distributed that decides the case and not the motive behind The Gideons' organization in distributing it. The Testament itself was merely a standard King James Version

(Continued on page 8)

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# The International Board Of Jewish Missions

By Editor John R. Rice

Dr. Jacob Gartenhaus has been a long-time friend of the editor of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. For many years he was Southern Baptist missionary to Jews. Some years ago he formed the International Board of Jewish Missions, Inc., with address Post Office Box 1256, Atlanta 1, Georgia. Godly, sound men from practically every state are on his board of directors, and this editor is honored to be counted among them.

There are twelve capable and consecrated missionaries associated with Dr. Gartenhaus. Some have even done mission work behind the Iron Curtain. In Palestine a Jewish rabbi has been converted who has been preaching with great power.

Dr. Robert G. Lee, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, recently wrote the following about Dr. Gartenhaus:

"The Bellevue Baptist Church was greatly blessed spiritually by a recent visit of Dr. Jacob Garten-

haus, who spoke for the Lord to our people—as he occupied the pulpit at the worship hour.

"I am grateful for God's great use of this faithful servant. I am sure that the word 'faithful' is known in Heaven, even as it is known upon earth, whenever the name of Jacob Gartenhaus is mentioned. In season and out of season, at home and abroad, in the closet in prayer and before our conventions in speech, he has served faithfully. Faithfully he has tried to put upon our hearts, even as he has carried upon his heart, the Jewish people and the winning of some to faith in Christ Jesus.

"I commend Dr. Gartenhaus as worthy the confidence of Christians everywhere.

"Yours earnestly,"

(Signed) Robert G. Lee

We hope Christians will pray for the good work of Dr. Gartenhaus.



EVANGELIST

Merle Rosell

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ILLUSTRATIONS  
and QUOTES**

THE GREATER THE DIFFICULTY THE MORE GLORY IN SURMOUNTING IT. SKILLFUL PILOTS GAIN THEIR REPUTATION FROM STORMS AND TEMPESTS.

—Epicurus

## HIGH HAT, LOW BROW

A minister in the pulpit saw a man in a back pew with his hat on. He beckoned to a deacon, who went to the man and asked him if he was aware his hat was on.

"Thank God!" said the man, "I thought that would do it. I have attended this church for six months, and you are the first person who has spoken to me."

—Christian Victory

## SPELLED . . . HOP-PORTUNITY.

## HUSH!

When the wife of a Canon of Worcester Cathedral first was told about the theory of evolution, she protested: "Descended from apes! My dear, we will hope it is not true. But if it is, let us pray that it may not become generally known."

—New Statesman and Nation, London

"A CERTAIN SPECIES OF TREE CAN PRODUCE NUTS IN SEVEN YEARS . . . WE KNOW SOME CHRIST-DENYING THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES WHICH CAN PRODUCE THEM IN THREE . . ."

## WHEN IN DOUBT, SHOUT

When Henry Ward Beecher was getting on in years, he was approached one evening by another preacher of equal veneration.

"Tell me, Dr. Beecher, do you have difficulty getting involved in sentences and forgetting what the subject was?"

"Oh yes," he admitted.

"Well I have the same difficulty. What do you do?"

"Oh, when I forget what I am talking about, I just shout."

—H. A. Ironside

"DO WHAT YOU CAN, WHERE YOU ARE WITH WHAT YOU HAVE."

(From the book of 95 pages, DRIFTWOOD. Price, paper binding, \$1. Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.)

# Word From A Warrior

Thousands of letters have come during May, the letter month. Among them are some we value tremendously, including one from a Rev. Joe W. English of Glen Rose, Texas. This man of God has been a friend of THE SWORD OF THE LORD and of the editor for many years. He is a proven preacher, has toiled through the heat of a harvest, has won many souls to Christ. Thank God for his ministry! It is a strong encouragement to hear from Brother English. He wrote the following: "Dear Brother Rice:

"I am amazed at the growth and far reaching good that has accompanied your ministry, through THE SWORD and other publications.

"This is the only paper with which I am acquainted that majors on full length sermons with fire and living power in them. These sermons dive deep into the sea of gospel truth and rise high to reveal that truth to an ever growing multitude of hungry hearted people. Great trunk-line preaching with Revival power is so greatly needed now-a-days! I am impressed with the reach as to time and circumstances in dealing with eternal verities and the timeless sweep of the person and ministry of the central Name and Character of all the ages. There must be a vast variety of subject matter and a gripping manner of approach and application—but ever holding to the fact that 'HIS NAME SHALL ENDURE FOREVER'—From Eternity to Eternity!!

"Jesus said of Himself—(His own autobiography)

'I came forth from the Father, And am come into the world; Again I leave the world, And go to the Father'

"In every age God has seen to it that there were men to stand up and speak the truth. Never in all the reach of human history has the Lord left Himself without witnesses. Even when Elijah wailed that he was the only one left because Jezebel had slain 'all thy prophets and I only am left and they seek my life to take it away'—but what saith the Lord unto him—'I have left me 7,000 who have not bowed to Baal? Where else would one expect to find, freshly printed, for all to read—with only the light cost of a subscription—than in THE SWORD OF THE LORD?

"When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord lifts up a standard against him. It is so on every hand—but Oh, how very few give heed even to read what is written. Denominational papers, for the most, have degenerated into bulletins of propaganda—filled with stale shop talk. As the bewildered Jew was heard to say—'Where is the blood?' So I ask today, 'Where is challenge of the prophet of God before the worshippers of Baal, saying, PUT NO FIRE UNDER—THE GOD THAT ANSWERETH BY FIRE LET HIM BE GOD?'

"There was a witness in 1870 in the voice of that brave Bishop who protested the flagrant heresy of the Pope's infallibility. The seven thousands are still coming out to protest and to declare that there is only One Mediator between God and man—the Man Christ Jesus.

"You do well to put so many of these wonderful sermons in permanent form in good books that fill many shelves of our homes. Thus they are not allowed to be forgotten when read only once in a printed newspaper.

"I have mentioned the Depth, the Breadth, the Length, the Fire, the Power and the Perpetuity of the manifold Gospel carried to the people through your publications. To this I would add one other word. The living ministry of yourself and fine staff of Evangelists who are out on the field calling men to repentance and to saving faith in the once crucified but now Risen Saviour, now at the right hand of the majesty on high, and 'whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.'

# Make Reservations Now For Sword Conferences

Three strong Sword of the Lord Conferences on Revival and Soul Winning are planned for the immediate future. You should make reservations now.

1. Lake Arrowhead Conference, June 28-July 4. Speakers—John R. Rice, Evangelist Hugh Pyle, Evangelist Joe Miller. Music by Rev. and Mrs. Warren Steward. Write at once to Mr. Leo Forse, Lake Arrowhead Bible Conference, Box 505, Binghamton, New York. Rates are reasonable; accommodations and food very good.

2. Lake Louise, Toccoa, Georgia, July 4-10. Speakers—Dr. Lee Roberson, Dr. G. B. Vick, Dr. Monroe Parker, Evangelists Bill Rice, Hugh Pyle, John R. Rice. Great music. Large folder with full program, accommodations, expenses, on request. Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Illinois. But make reservations directly with Mr. A. J. Philippi, Lake Louise Conference Grounds, Toccoa, Georgia.

3. Sword Practical Christian Life Conference, a "How-To" Conference, July 11-16. Speakers—Evangelists Bill Rice, Hugh Pyle, John R. Rice. Music by Mr. and Mrs. Don Sandberg and others. Special classes in how to lead Gospel songs, how to play Gospel music, how to teach children, etc. Folder of Lake Louise Conferences with full program, accommodations, rates, sent on request. For reservations, write Mr. A. J. Philippi, Lake Louise Conference Grounds, Toccoa, Georgia.

DON'T MISS THESE TREMENDOUS LIFE-CHANGING TIMES OF REFRESHING FROM GOD. Have a spiritual vacation.

# Gideons Carry Bible To . . . Court

(Continued from page 7)

with no notes or comments at all. On page 28 of his petition Mr. Stam says, "If the children who want to read the Bible are won for Christ through the distribution of the volume, it is not because of anything that The Gideons say to them. It is or will be solely because of what the Word of God (without note or comment) says to them."

## King James Bible Not a Sectarian Book

The heart of the whole matter is that the authorized King James Version of the Bible, as we have it, is not a sectarian book. It is the same volume upon which our country was founded. It is the volume upon which our President lays his hand as he takes the oath of office and which is in the court rooms of our Land. It is a sad commentary on national life when we see how far behind we have left the Bible as God's Holy Word. In most of our schools today, teachers can expound all sorts of atheistic and blasphemous teaching. Yet the Bible is being ruled out of most of our schools and a teacher may not quote from the Bible for fear of being charged with teaching religion in the schools. It is true that our schools should guarantee religious liberty to all of its students, regardless of their faith. Yet, it is a great tragedy that the great moral truths of right and wrong cannot be from the greatest Textbook on the subject. On page 29 of his petition, Mr. Stam quotes from a book *Human Nature in the Bible* by William Lyon Phelps who was for forty years a teacher at Yale University. He quotes from page IX of the introduction, as follows:

"Everyone who has a thorough knowledge of the Bible may truly be called educated; and no other learning or culture, no matter how extensive or elegant, can, among Europeans and Americans, form a proper substitute. Western civilization is founded upon the Bible; our ideas, our wisdom, our philosophy, our literature, our art, our ideals, come more from the Bible than from all other books put together. It is a revelation of divinity and of humanity; it contains the loftiest religious aspira-

"God now, . . . commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; wherefore he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead."

"With the Holy Bible in hand, how on earth can any man spend his time and God-given talents always preaching on side lines, switch lines and tram lines when he should pull to the center, and from the cross of Calvary and with Calvary in his heart, call perishing men to the One and only Saviour?"

"Yours for more and more of the old time Gospel found in the book of all books—the Bible!"

"Joe W. English"

tion along with a candid representation of all that is earthly, sensual and devilish. I thoroughly believe in a university education for both men and women; but I believe a knowledge of the Bible without a college course is more valuable than a college course without the Bible."

In his book *Reading The Bible*, Professor Phelps wrote:

"The so-called Authorized or King James Version of the Bible, published in 1611, is the most influential book in English literature" (Page 10).

"The Bible is not only the Foundation of modern English literature, it is the foundation of Anglo-Saxon civilization. It seems a narrow and mistaken policy to drive it out of the public schools. When I was a boy every day in school began with a chapter in the Bible and the Lord's prayer; surely there was nothing sectarian about that" (Pages 15, 16).

We owe a great debt to The Gideons' organization for carrying this matter to the United States Supreme Court. It is an important decision and they deserve our prayers as they present this important case. The basic principles of separation of church and state must be maintained. But the Gideons' right to distribute the Scriptures in the schools as they have been doing should also be upheld.

I believe it would be a great encouragement to Lawyer Stam if you would write and tell him that you will pray regularly for him in this important matter. His address is Mr. Jacob Stam, 140 Market Street, Paterson 1, New Jersey.



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## Thank God for Friends

(Continued from page 1)

and carrying on the work in the two buildings. God wonderfully led us to a piece of property in downtown Wheaton which costs

## Our Image

By REV. A. B. SIMPSON

And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly" (I Cor. 15:49).

Just as truly as we have upon us the birthmarks of Adam in these mortal bodies, in these twinges of pain and touches of sickness, in these hearts of sin and the harbingers of the cold sweat of death and the silence of the tomb, so, yes, even so we have the assurance that we shall "bear the image of the heavenly" and, "when he shall appear," we shall appear with Him in glory and "shall be like Him when we see Him as He is."

As He rose from Joseph's tomb, radiant with immortal life, never to die again, able to pass through the sealed stone and the bolted door, able to rise without an effort despite the law of gravitation, until the clouds received Him out of sight, able to eat and drink with them or to dispense with earthly food; as John beheld Him shining like the brightness of the sun, the Conqueror of death and Hell, so we some day shall shine in all the glory of the resurrection, and these bodies shall be clothed with immortality, beautiful with His own likeness, mighty with His resurrection power and glorious as the sun and the stars forever and ever. These spirits of ours shall be restored to the image of God and the bride of the Lamb shall shine in the New Jerusalem, "a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing." Our intellects shall rise to the heights of His lofty wisdom, and "we shall know even as we are known."

Our joys shall be as infinite and sublime as the blessedness of God Himself. Our circumstances shall be as far removed from our earthly lot of poverty, toil and obscurity, as a throne is removed above His footstool and as a city is greater than a single pound. In a word, put together all that eye hath seen or ear heard, or the heart of men conceived, of beauty, glory, love, holiness, and joy, and then multiply it by infinity and eternity and then tell me what God means by that "far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."

Beloved, this is God's great ideal for our lost humanity and our redeemed race. We see not yet that ideal realised in our poor, sad, sinning world, but "we see Jesus," the Head of our humanity, "crowned with glory and honour," as the Forerunner of the race, and as we look at Him we forget our failures, our sorrows and our sins, and we cry:

Oh, what a wonderful place,  
Jesus hath given to me.  
Saved by His glorious grace,  
I may be even as He.

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\$66,000. It is a wonderful location, and seems to be ideal for the building which we have in mind. In October we paid \$5,000 down on the property and paid \$17,000 on January 1. According to the terms of our contract we must pay the final \$44,000 on August 1.

In addition to Brother Arthur DeMoss who has agreed to pay \$200 by August 1, the following have each agreed to pay \$100:

Mr. J. C. Drury  
Mr. Albert C. Bean  
Mr. Charles E. Stegner  
Mr. H. P. Graves  
Miss Hattie J. Spurlock  
Mr. and Mrs. George M. Klingler  
Mr. John Hines  
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Handford  
Mr. Henry Anderson  
Miss Viola Walden  
S/Sgt. Hubert E. Jones

Mr. Gordon A. Laycock of Heathcote, Ontario, Canada, has already sent in \$30 and has agreed to pay \$70 more and become one of "Gideon's 300" who will agree to pay \$100 by August 1. Dr. Rice has already paid \$500 on the Building Fund in the last few weeks in order to become a "Gideon's Captain." God has laid it on his heart to give sacrificially to the expansion program of this work here.

How I thank God for this group of special friends that have pledged such large amounts and then for others who are giving lesser amounts. Only today I read a letter from Mrs. Sue Black, a woman 84 years old, who has to spend much of her small income on medicine. She enclosed a \$1 bill and said it was all that she could do but she wanted to help get out the Gospel by expanding the ministry of the Sword of the Lord Foundation.

Yes, we thank God for these friends that He is raising up all over the land. I wonder if you count yourself as one of the special friends of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. If you do count yourself as a friend of THE SWORD OF THE LORD in our stand for revival and soul winning, I hope that you will let us hear from you as to what God wants you to do for us in this Building Fund need. In this urgent need we must hear from as many of our friends as possible in the next few weeks.

If you have not written and told us what you feel God wants you to do for the Building Fund program, won't you take time right now to fill out the coupon which follows and let us know what God is leading you to do in this important matter. We are counting on you, our special friends, to help us in this advancement program. God bless you, dear friend! Here is the coupon. Will you fill it out now, cut it out and mail it today?

## Sword Building Fund Program

Rev. Walter Handford  
Sword of the Lord Foundation  
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Handford:

Yes, I would like to help further with the Building Program, as follows:

- [ ] 1. Between now and August 1, I will covenant with the Lord to send \$100 for your Building Fund.
- [ ] 2. I would like to be a captain in the Gideon's Band and will endeavor to send \$500 between now and August 1.
- [ ] 3. I am not able to do either of the above but I do want to have a part in the Building Fund Program. Enclosed please find \$\_\_\_\_\_ for this serious need.

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ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

### ABOUT TO MOVE?

Don't forget to send a change of address to the SWORD, giving your old and new address. Send it 5 weeks in advance, so as not to miss a single copy. If you enclose a label, it will help!

## Personal Work in Soul Winning

(Continued from page 2)

that a man has to do to obtain this forgiveness of sins; what is it?" "Believe on Him." "What blessing comes to all that believe?" "They are justified from all things." "On the other hand, what comes to us if we neglect to believe?" "We shall perish."

Still another passage to use for this purpose is John 3:36:

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

When the passage has been read, ask, "What does everyone who believes on the Son get?" "Everlasting life." "But on the other hand, if one simply neglects to believe, what will be the result?" "He shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth upon him."

### VI. Show Him the Wonderful Love of God to Him

Oftentimes when every other method of dealing with the careless fails, a realization of love of God breaks the heart, and leads to an acceptance of Christ. There is no better passage to show the love of God than John 3:16:

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Generally it will need no comment. I was once dealing with one of the most careless and vile women I ever met. She moved in good society, but in her secret life was as vile as a woman of the street. She told me the story of her life in a most shameless and unblushing way, half-laughing as she did it. I made no further reply than to ask her to read John 3:16, to which I had opened my Bible. Before she had read the passage through, she burst into tears, her heart broken by the love of God to her.

Another excellent passage to use in the same way is Isaiah 53:5:

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."

God used this passage one night to bring to tears and penitence one of the most stubborn and wayward young women with whom I ever dealt. I made almost no comment, simply read the passage to her. The Spirit of God seemed to hold up before her, her Saviour, wounded for her transgressions, and bruised for her iniquities. Her stubborn will gave way, and before many days she was rejoicing in Christ.

Two other passages which can be used in the same way, are Galatians 3:13 and I Peter 2:24:

"Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree."

"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."

After showing the love of God through the use of such passages as these mentioned, it is oftentimes well to clinch this truth by using Romans 2:4, 5:

"Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and long suffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God."

Before having the passage read, say, "Now we have been looking at the love of God to you, let us see what God tells us is the purpose of that love, and what will be the result of our despising it." Then have the passage, Romans 2:4, 5 read by the one with whom you are dealing. When he has read it, ask him what is the purpose of God's goodness. "To lead to repentance." "If it does not lead us to repentance, what does it show us about our hearts?" "That they are very hard and impenitent." "And if we refuse to let the goodness of God lead us to repentance, what will be the result?" "We treasure up wrath unto ourselves against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God."

Of course it will not always be possible to get a person who has little or no concern about his salvation to talk with you long enough to go over all these passages, but not infrequently they will become so interested after the use of the first or second passage, that they will be glad to go through. Oftentimes it is not at all necessary to use all these passages. Not infrequently I find that the first passage, Matthew 22:37, 38, does the desired work, but it is well to be thorough, and to use all the passages necessary.

Sometimes one will not talk with you for any length of time at all. In such a case, the best thing to do is to select a very pointed and searching passage and give it to them, repeating it again and again, and then as they go, say to

them something like this, "I am going to ask God to burn that passage into your heart;" and then do not forget to do what you said you were going to do. Good passages for this purpose are Romans 6:23; Mark 16:16; John 3:36; Isaiah 57:21.

When the inquirer has been led by the use of any or all of these passages to realize his need of a Saviour, and really desires to be saved, of course he comes under the class treated in the preceding chapter, and should be dealt with accordingly. It is not intended that the worker shall follow the precise method laid down here, it is given rather by way of suggestion, but the general plan here outlined, has been honored of God to the salvation of very many. But let us be sure, whether we use this method or some other, to do thoroughgoing and lasting work.

Of course it is not supposed that the inquirer will always answer you exactly as stated above. If he does not, make use of the answers that he does give, or if necessary ask the same question another way until he does answer you correctly. The answers given to the questions are found in the text, but people have a great habit of not seeing what is plainly stated in a Scripture text. Oftentimes when they do not answer right, it is well to ask them to look at the verse again, and repeat the question, and keep asking questions until they do give the right answer. Perhaps the inquirer will try to switch you off on to some side-track. Do not permit him to do this, but hold right to the matter in hand.

(From PERSONAL WORK, 176 pages, \$2.00. Published by Fleming Revell, used by permission. Order from Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Ill.)

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## "Always to Pray, And Not to Faint"

(Continued from page 3)

which He disciplines is by delaying answer to prayer.

I was in New York some years ago, calling upon an old friend, a graduate of Knox College during my father's presidency there. In an adjoining room lay the daughter, long sick, at that time supposed to be near to death. I had prayer with her and was glad that God seemed to show mercies to her in her poor, wrecked and tormented body. For some little time it looked as if she might recover, though I do not believe this was the plan of God. The next year when I was in New York I found that she had died. A friend who was intimate with the family said to me that was very terrible about her dying,—that a friend came to the room, prayed for her and said: "God, you have promised to answer prayer and we have complied with all the conditions; we command you to heal this sick one." I did not wonder that she died; I wondered that the person who offered the prayer did not die. Except that she was ignorant and God could pardon her, it seemed to me that He would certainly have struck her dead then and there.

### God Takes No Instructions From Men

God does not permit men to give Him orders. "He sits on no precarious throne, nor borrows leave to be" and He does not wish to have people say that they command Him. I do not think that He cares to hear us say that we have complied with all the conditions of successful prayer. I am certain He wishes us to do this and I am certain that when we do it, He knows it and is satisfied, and I am quite sure He does not require us to tell Him that since we have complied with the conditions, it is time for Him to fulfill His word. This seems a frightful blasphemy and I hope that none of the Lord's children who read these words will ever be guilty of so offending against the Majesty of Heaven. A sensible person proffering a request to an earthly monarch would never think of doing so in such insulting and outrageous terms. Is it not strange that our brothers and sisters can sometimes insult God by addressing Him as they would never dare to speak to a human being?

### George Mueller Again

I remember hearing George Mueller say when he was telling us about praying for those two men thirty-five years, that it happened in the providence of God that the first persons he spoke with in the name of Jesus, after his own conversion, were very quickly saved. On one occasion two young men laughed when he spoke to them on the subject. He went into his bedroom adjacent, fell on his knees and with tears begged God to save those two young men. When he came out, they were both of them ready to submit to God. He said that he received the impression that everybody that he spoke to or prayed for would be immediately converted and that when he began

to pray one year, two years, three years, four years, five years, for the same person, with no apparent result, he was surprised and a bit disheartened, but he reflected that God's promise was not to answer in five minutes, or five years, or fifty years, but to answer,—that it was his part to believe and to continue making request and that, if he did this, God would certainly fulfill His part of the contract, so he said: "I lost the feeling of disappointment which I had had and was encouraged to lay hold on God patiently, perseveringly every day until the answer came."

### The Garden Prayers

In this connection I think it is helpful to remember about our Lord's praying in Gethsemane. He prayed once, He prayed twice, He prayed the third time, and it is interesting to note that the Word says, in speaking of these repeated petitions, "saying the same words" (Matt. 26:44). How can one reconcile this fact with the teaching of some who say that when we have once proffered a petition, it is an exhibition of distrust or rebellious spirit if we make the same request again. I do not believe that this is true. Had it been, certainly our Lord Jesus Christ would never have prayed three times, saying the same words each time. The fact is that we must be taught by the Spirit how to pray. Sometimes He will teach us to pray once and to look upon the transaction as completed. Sometimes He will bid us pray more than once and when He does so, we must persevere in prayer. "Men ought always to pray, and not to faint."

I remember that my father once visited a dying man in the city of Cincinnati, where he was pastor of the Sixth Presbyterian Church. The dying man had great difficulty in speaking, in fact could scarcely speak at all. My father asked him if he would like him to pray, and he nodded his head affirmatively. My father said to him: "Shall I pray for your wife and children?" and he shook his head negatively, and then gathering up what strength he had, said:

"Yesterday I prayed for them." Yesterday, in other words, he had closed that transaction with God and he did not wish to re-open it. He had prayed for those dear people once; he knew God had heard him and would answer in due time. In his bodily frailty his faith was strong and he did not care to pray twice when he believed he had already the answer of God.

### When I Prayed for a Friend

I have had that same experience, not as a dying experience, but as a living one. I was years ago very much burdened for a friend. I prayed repeatedly that the Lord would do a certain thing for that friend. At last it seemed to me that God said to me by His Spirit: "You leave that matter with me and I will take care of it." I did so. I have never prayed that prayer since, so far as I know. Sometimes I have thought of doing so and almost began to pray and then it has come to me that that is a completed transaction between God and me, so I have stopped and thanked Him that He has accepted my petition, that He would answer my prayer, and I have left that matter definitely in His hands. It is blessed to do so and from time to time remind Him that He has promised and that I know He will fulfill my petition in His own time.

I have had that same experience about erecting buildings. I have thanked God for them; I have seen them in my mind fully completed, standing fair and beautiful on the ground, when not a shovel of earth had been turned, when not a brick or stone had been laid.

If I am speaking to those who have been burdened because of unanswered prayer, and I do not doubt there are some such among those who will read these pages, let me encourage you. There is no such thing as proper prayer in God's will unanswered in this world, but there are prayers, the answers to which are long delayed. It is well that it is so. It would harm us if it were otherwise. If you will be victoriously patient, you will be victoriously successful in your praying.

(From the book, **GETTING THINGS FROM GOD**, 270 pages, price \$2.50. Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Ill., or your book dealer.)

## Preaching That Produces Results . . .

(Continued from page 1)

tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged" (Isa. 6:6,7).

Fire tries our faith and determines our quality. First Peter 1:7—"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearance of Jesus Christ."

### God, the Source of Divine Fire

GOD IS THE SOURCE—"who maketh." There is only one source of divine fire, and that one source is God. God appeared in a flame of fire, according to Acts 7:30—"And when forty years were expired, there appeared to him in the wilderness of mount Sina an angel of the Lord in a flame of fire in a bush."

In Jeremiah 23:29, we see that God said, "Is not my word like as a fire?"

The source is only reached through prayer; and preaching that can produce prayer will bring results, because prayer is the key-stone to finding God's face (II Chron. 7:14). When we seek God's face, we must seek Him wholeheartedly. Jeremiah 29:13—"And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." In Hosea 10:12 we learn, "It is time to seek the Lord." We hear the phrase, "Revival or Ruin," and also the term, "Revival or No Survival"; therefore, it is time to pray. Every great revival must be preceded by prayer. All of the revivals that we have conducted which have exceeded the realm of the ordinary have been prayed-down revivals. The pastor had produced a burdened heart in his people and a spirit of concern for the lost. The evangelist alone does not

bring a great revival. The pastor who promotes the prayer and produces the results of earnest, faithful travail in prayer gains the object of his desire—a revived people who will win the lost. Isaiah 66:7, 8 says that there will be no new birth without travail. In Galatians 4:19 Paul said he travailed. In Acts 1:13, 14, we learn that the people prayed. They heeded the words of Jesus, found in Luke 24:49, where he said, "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with the power from on high." And, they tarried.

On the day of Pentecost the power of God—the source, was made manifest as of a rushing wind and cloven tongues like as fire (Acts 2:2,3). Prayer and the manifestation of the power of God were a prelude to Pentecost. Because they brought the source of power on the scene, God was there, and it is God that maketh us flames of fire, and it is God that added to His church daily (Acts 2:47). And, it is God that gave the increase (I Cor. 3:6). If the increase is to be experienced in the church, we must find the source, and it is God that giveth the increase, for salvation is of the Lord.

### II. God Selects His Own Workers

THE SUBJECT—"who maketh his ministers." You will note that the subject here is plural, that God uses many ministers. God's ways are not our ways. He might choose an instrument that we would not choose to become a flame of fire. Isaiah 55:8—"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

The Bible is replete with evidence that God has used men from every walk of life; shepherders, farmers, soldiers, fishermen, politicians, tax-collectors, and physicians; all of whom became flames of fire to accomplish the result that God intended. It is not what we are that counts; it is what God can make us if we will only be clay in the hand of the Potter. We must be yielded to His will.

Moses did not consider himself much of a prospect for useful service, but see him, a man of rough physical features, with skin tanned from the parching sun; strong arms, deep-set eyes, unshaven, as God arrested him near Mount Sinai. He said, "I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue," but God appeared to the shepherd as he kept the sheep of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian. Exodus 3:2—"And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of the bush; and he looked and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed." Perhaps one of the things that went through Moses' mind as he observed the burning bush was, "Moses, like this bush is burning, you will burn for God, but you will not burn out." Exodus 4:10—"And Moses said unto the Lord, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant, but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue." Note if you will what God said to this subject in Exodus 4:11 and 4:12—"And the Lord said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth, have not I, the Lord? Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say."

Jeremiah was locked up in the stocks by Pashur, the priest, who was the ruler, because of his prophecy against Israel. He felt unqualified and defeated, but note the words of Jeremiah 20:9—"Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay." God made him a mouthpiece.

Gideon was a poor farmer boy who was threshing wheat by the winepress to hide it from the Midianites, when God appeared unto him and made him a mighty man of valor (Judges 6:11). We read these words of self-abasement in Judges 6:15—"And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." He was a poor subject, but God made him a great leader of these people.

*Face to face with Host of Midian,  
Gideon's men are sifted out.  
Forth they go, those chosen heroes,  
With no sword the foe to rout.  
Do you wonder that the victory  
Can be gained by band so slim?  
See! Jehovah's sword is gleaming—  
Leave the victory to Him.*

—Copied, anonymous.

See Amos, that shepherd boy and vine dresser from the hills of Tekoa. One day God spoke to this man's heart, and we see Amos, small in physical stature, but a giant in spiritual power, as he proclaims what God has said during the prosperous reign of Jeroboam II of Israel. Amaziah the priest made an attempt to put the hush-hush on Amos, and suggested that he return to the hills to do "that" kind of preaching (Amos 7:12,13). But, Amos talks back in verses 14 to 17 where he tells Amaziah to "shut up, God has spoken!" Yes, truly, God did make Amos a flame of fire.

As the prophets of old were made flames of fire for God, so were Charles and John Wesley, who were made ministers to present Jesus Christ during the crisis of England at a time when France fell under the fate of communism. The Wesleys were made to change the course of the history of the British Empire when they were made flames of fire to be revealed through song and sermon.

Charles Finney, the lawyer, was made a flame of fire and changed the course of our nation.

Dwight L. Moody, a shoe clerk in a Boston shoe store, was made a flame of fire and shook two continents for Christ, as he held

them spellbound under his matchless ministry of evangelism.

Billy Graham, of our day, was like the prophets of old, and did not show much prospect of being a mighty power when he left one college in the Southland to try again in another in a different area of the country. But, God made him the mighty mouthpiece of our day. He has not only swept out nation from coast to coast and drawn it back toward the Christ of Calvary, but is now making England and Europe conscious that there is a Christ who has the answer for every crisis.

Peter, a profane, impulsive denier of Christ, became the defier of the Devil and his motley crew on the day of Pentecost. In Luke 22:57-60 we find Peter denying his Christ, but in the second chapter of Acts we find that God made him His mouthpiece.

"He maketh his ministers a flame of fire." WHO is the source. HIS MINISTERS is the subject.

### III. The Fire Represents the Power of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God, Preaching the Death and Resurrection of Christ

THE SERVICE—"a flame of fire." Jeremiah 5:14—"Wherefore thus saith the Lord God of hosts, Because ye speak this word, behold I will make my words in thy mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them."

1. The prayer that preceded Pentecost produced the power of God and personal work. Acts 2:4—"They were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Verse 6 says every man heard them speak in his own language. Preaching that produces prayer, the power of God, will bring about personal work. The pastor who is skillful in accomplishing this feat can use the people to evangelize when the evangelist comes on the field. An evangelistic party is not necessary, only a plan to be executed according to God's Word, that will produce prayer, the power of God, and personal work. Then the evangelist who is a flame of fire will produce results.

Carnal sensationalism is not the service God is seeking through those whom He sends forth. Sensationalism has a fire, but too often it is a *strange fire*. In Leviticus 10:1,2—"And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the Lord, which he commanded them not. And there went out fire from the Lord, and devoured them, and they died before the Lord"—we find that the sons of Aaron offered strange fire. God does not honor, neither is there a lasting result from this kind of fire in present-day preaching. Strange fire pollutes and does not purify. Therefore, we should try the spirits and see if they be of God. It is a wicked generation that seeketh a sign.

The true fire is the Gospel, the dynamite of God. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek" (Rom. 1:16). The Word of God, which is fire, is the Sword of the Spirit. "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." The word of fire which Timothy was commanded to preach (II Tim. 4:2), and the disciples were instructed to preach (Mark 16:15), is described in Hebrews 4:12—"For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

It is high time that ministers take more of the quotes and illustrations of God into the pulpit rather than quoting some modernist with his rosewater, Satanic influence dissertations and what Rabbi Smell-Fungus said. What I am wondering is, Didn't God say something!!

2. Let us look at the flame of fire on the day of Pentecost... the sermon that performed the service that God sought to accomplish.

(Continued on page 11)

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## Preaching That Produces Results...

(Continued from page 10)

compleish the salvation of three thousand souls to be baptized into the church. It was full of the Scripture. Acts 2:16 says, "But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel." You will note that Peter quoted David, Ezekiel and Joel. It was the Scriptures he preached.

3. We note that the sermon was full of Christ. It is Christ and Him crucified that we must preach if we are to gain the results of souls born into the Kingdom, and it is the Word of God that quickeneth. It is the Word that giveth life. Paul came as we come today, in weakness and in fear, and in much trembling, but he said, "For I determined not to know anything among you save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified" (I Cor. 2:2). He preached Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Note that Peter preached the person of Christ (Acts 2:22). He said, "Jesus of Nazareth." He identified Him as the virgin-born Christ, the One who had been mocked and ridiculed; spitefully abused, rejected and crucified. He preached the ministry of Christ. Acts 2:22—miracles, wonders and signs. He said to Peter, "Greater works than these shall he do, because I go unto my Father" (John 14:12). He is the same today as when He walked along the shores of Galilee, Hebrews 13:8—"Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever." He is doing mighty miracles today. When He saves souls, it is the greatest miracle on earth. Greater is the healing of the soul than the healing of the body. The body is temporal, but the soul is eternal. Night after night, miracle after miracle happens when His minister is a flame of fire, performing the service ordained of God.

Peter preached the death of Christ. Acts 2:23—"Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain." It is the death of Christ that shows man's inability to save himself. The wages of sin is death. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord" (Rom. 6:23). To pay the wage, Christ died. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). The death of Christ was determined in the foreknowledge of God, as the lamb slain from the foundation of the world (Rom. 13:8). It was declared to the first parents who sinned, when it was prophesied that He would put enmity between the Devil and the seed of woman. Genesis 3:15—"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; and it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." His death demonstrated in the sacrifice of animals on Jewish altars is shown in Leviticus 16. His death was

dictated in Pilate's judgment hall, and dedicated on the cross of Calvary, when Christ was made an offering for our sins. It was preaching Christ's death for our sins that saved the multitudes on the day of Pentecost.

Peter did not stop here. He preached the resurrection. Acts 2:24—"Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death; because it was not possible that he should be holden of it." Acts 2:32—"This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we are all witnesses." It is the hope of the resurrection that produced the faith that brought new-born babes into existence on the day of Pentecost. It is the hope of the resurrection that stirs our souls and moves us to God. "And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain, ye are yet in your sins" (I Cor. 15:17). If Christ be not risen, our preaching is in vain (I Cor. 15:14). "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable" (I Cor. 15:19).

*My hope is built on nothing less,  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.*  
—Edward Mote.

He not only preached the resurrected Christ on Pentecost, but also preached the exalted Christ. Acts 2:33—"Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear." Therefore, since He

is exalted, He can save to the uttermost (Heb. 7:25).

4. We see the effects of Peter preaching as a flame of fire.

- (1) Conviction Acts 2:37 — pricked in their heart
- (2) Contrition Acts 2:37 — what shall we do
- (3) Conversion Acts 2:38 — repent
- (4) Confession Acts 2:41 — baptized
- (5) Consecration Acts 2:42 — continued steadfastly
- (6) Confirmation Acts 2:47 — And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Let's pray that we shall be filled with the Spirit and become flames of fire that God may make us a flame that glows for Him. Seek the place of service at the source, and become the subject that will be set on fire for God. Make this poem your prayer today!

### GOD TOUCH MY LIFE

*God, touch my ears that I might hear  
Above earth's din, Thy voice ring clear;  
God, touch my eyes that I might see  
The tasks Thou'd have me do for Thee;  
God, touch my lips that I might say  
Words that reveal the Narrow Way;  
God, touch my hands that I might do  
Deeds that inspire men to be true;  
God, touch my feet that I might go  
To do Thine errands here below;  
A flame that ever glows for Thee  
God fill me with Thy Spirit and make me  
The witness that I ought to be.*

## Miracles in Britain

(Continued from page 1)

prisoners and set them free. Chains began to break when the Liberator from Heaven came to this planet.

The woman at the well in Samaria was emancipated from her moral bondage. The chains of sensuality were broken by the power of the Galilean, and her liberated soul cried, "Come, see a man... Is not this the Christ?" From that moment on, like all those others who had contacted Jesus, she was a new and vibrant personality. Bartimaeus, incarcerated in a Prison of Blindness, called upon Jesus, "Thou, Son of David, have mercy on me," and immediately he received his sight. A leper, who in Oriental lands was a social outcast, cried to Jesus for help. Jesus touched him, and he became clean and he was healed.

Jesus broke the chains of infirmity and liberated those who were imprisoned by sickness. No disease was beyond the reach of His power. Palsy, lameness and leprosy fled before Him, as shadows flee before the sun. He healed all who came unto Him.

Christ had power over death. He broke up every funeral He attended. Lazarus, whom He loved dearly, had been dead four days, but Jesus defied death's decree and cried: "Lazarus, come forth," and Lazarus was raised from the dead.

Time does not permit us to mention more of what Jesus did yesterday. We only wish to remind you that John said, regarding His earthly ministry, that "If they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books that should be written."

But someone says, "That is all in the past. What we want to know is—What can Christ do today?"

Others ask, "Is His Gospel applicable to this Hydrogen Age? Can He meet the phobias, frustrations and problems of this generation. Can He still heal souls and forgive sin and change lives?"

What our eyes have seen, our ears have heard, and our hearts have felt here in London, com-

prise an affirmative answer to these honest questions. Thousands have found Him to be today, in 1954, what He was in A. D. 33. As the old hymn says, "His touch hath still its ancient power."

Just as the physical sun, the center of our material universe, has shined undimmed through the centuries, the radiance and power of Him who is the Son of Righteousness still arises with healing in His wings.

The miracle in London was not the multiplied thousands who crowded Harringay from night to night and into the great outdoor gatherings that were held—nor is the miracle in the press, radio and television coverage that carried the news of the campaign to every corner of the globe—Nor is the greatest miracle in the fine teamwork that was displayed between American and British Christians who prayed earnestly and gave generously and worked faithfully toward victory. The real miracle has been wrought in the hearts and lives of men and women who accepted Christ and made a clean-cut decision for Him.

From the opening night all of us were conscious that the London campaign would be different than any we had ever conducted. More prayer, organization, and interest has gone into the campaign than any we had ever held in the United States. Also, from the opening night there was a spirit in the meetings that we had not felt in any of our American campaigns, and there has been a deepening of the work of the Spirit of God. Conviction has settled on people in remote areas, and people are being converted to Christ who have never been near Harringay Arena.

Night after night, quietly, seriously, and thoughtfully, the people queued in the front of the Arena to give public witness to the fact that they received Christ as their Saviour. There was no begging, pleading or exhorting. There was no hand raising—only the asking men and women who wanted to receive Christ as their Saviour to come and stand in front of the platform, and then file quietly into the counseling room to be individually talked to and prayed with by counselors. Everyone is conscious of the fact that these people were brought to Christ by the Holy Spirit.

We give all the credit and glory to God Who is the Author and

Finisher of our salvation. Hundreds of thrilling stories have come to us of transformed lives. Some have come with desperate needs. Others have come out of curiosity, while still others came to scoff. But they all left with one thing in common—the assurance of salvation.

A little Russian girl was taken from home by the Germans when she was just thirteen years of age. She has not heard from her parents since the war. She went through the bombing of Berlin, but for the last six years has lived in England, utterly lonely and friendless—no one to love or help, nothing to live for. Night after night in her drab, one-room apartment she cried herself to sleep, wishing to be dead. But during the second week of the Greater London Crusade she came to Christ, and later witnessing said, "I am a new person inside. Everything is changed. For the first time in thirteen years I have someone to live for, something to look forward to. All of the self pity which I had come to hold in my heart is gone."

Later a counselor said to her, "I wish you could find a room mate so you would not have to be alone." She replied with glowing face, "Oh, I'm not alone any more."

There are millions, perhaps, in better circumstances than this little Russian girl, but down inside you are imprisoned by a blighting loneliness. Thousands of you living in tenement houses in the great cities of America, hundreds of you in rural areas, also feel a depressing loneliness. Christ is able to take your loneliness away, and no matter what your circumstances, you need never be alone again.

Some members of the Team had a tea for some of the nurses who had found Christ during the Crusade. The first four to witness for Christ were in turn a Jamaican, an English woman, an Indian, and a Swiss. Their testimonies were clear, definite, and genuine. Christ had done for these wise women what He had done for the wise men of old—brought new hope into their lives.

At other teas for people who have been converted, sixty and seventy come at a time, all giving their thrilling testimony of the changed lives since they found Christ. Movie actors, doctors, lawyers, taxi drivers, plumbers, business executives—all testifying that Christ met their particular need.

Canon Bryan Green, well known in the United States, is Rector of a church many miles away in the city of Birmingham. He told of receiving seven names of converts in the early part of the campaign. He said each one was a genuine conversion and that each one is now in the process of identifying himself with the church.

However, many have come to the meetings for motives other than spiritual. The wife of one of the English ministers was sitting in the audience one evening a few nights ago when a man sat down beside her. In a few moments, another man, obviously a stranger to the first, came and sat down beside him. As the service progressed, these men struck up a conversation, and the minister's wife, who could not help hearing what they said, noticed that they had one thing in common. They both disapproved of the evangelist, and of this fact they seemed not ashamed, for their remarks were loud enough to be heard all around. At the close of the service when the invitation was given and scores were quietly going forward to accept Christ, suddenly one of the men turned to the other and said, "I don't know about you, but I'm going forward to receive Christ." The second man hesitated for a brief second, and reaching in his pocket he said, "I'm going too, and here's your wallet. I'm a pickpocket."

The nobility of many lands has been represented in the meetings at Harringay. We have had kings, senators, lords, ladies, and members of the royal household. Many of them have joined the quiet, solemn, earnest throng as they marched into the counselling room.

A little girl who lives at Buckingham Palace who serves the Queen coffee, came to the counselling room and received Christ, and testified that the talk among the

servants in the Palace is what God is doing at Harringay.

One evening a distinguished Count came to Christ. He said, "All my life I have longed for God. I can no longer live without Him. Tonight when I entered this Arena I sensed His presence. Now tell me, what must I do to be saved?"

A woman who had just been released from prison came to the meetings. Her life had been one continuous muddle, an endless sequence of discord and confusion. With eight little children and no father to claim them at home, and a future filled with hopelessness and defeat, she came forward with the group and committed the tangled strands of her life to Jesus Christ. She left the Arena that night with the peace of God in her heart, and a new hope pulsating within her soul.

Adjoining the auditorium where the Crusade was held, there is a large stadium which is used for dog racing. A man obviously trying to gain entrance to the dog track, got in one of the long lines waiting to get into Harringay Arena. With the main topic of conversation about the Crusade meetings, he suddenly asked, "What are we queuing up for?"

"The Evangelistic meetings," they answered. But as he started to leave, someone said, "Why don't you go to the meetings tonight instead of the dog races? You may lose a great deal on the races, but here you can lose nothing, and you may gain a great deal." When the invitation was given, God spoke to his heart, and he accepted Christ with hundreds of others. When he came out of the counselling room, his new-made friends were waiting for him and joined him in rejoicing over his new-found joy. As he left that night, he said, "I want you friends to pray for me. I have sinned against God and my wife. Tonight I have straightened the matter out with God. Now I'm going home to straighten it out with my wife." Another man had found Christ and had gone his way rejoicing.

Many professional men in London found peace with God and in finding peace, they also found release from the chains of sin which bound them. One such professional man came to the Arena one night and made his decision for Christ. His particular sin was a perverted taste for obscene literature. He went home determined by God's grace to go all the way with Christ. He gathered up his obscene literature, walked to a Thames bridge, and hurled it into the river. An officer whose curiosity was aroused by the unusual incident, asked what it was he had thrown into the river. "Oh, it was just some worthless magazines which I will never need again," he answered as he went on his way, whistling joyfully into the night.

Scores of actresses and show people came to Christ. One of England's better known actresses came. She had been married twice and her life was confused. She came quietly and wonderfully to Christ, and as she looked up through tears of joy at the end of the service, she said, "I feel clean inside, as though somebody has scrubbed me all out. I'm going to dedicate my life to Christ from this hour on." Another person had gone out into the night rejoicing in the new found Christ.

One convincing evidence that the work in the Greater London Crusade was not the work of mere man, but of God, was the fact that many people who felt no particular emotion or conviction in the meetings were later overwhelmed by a sense of sin and their need of God.

A man living on the South Coast of England who had been prayed for by his wife for many months, completely unknown to him, came to Harringay with his wife. To her disappointment, he sat through the entire service apparently unmoved. They went home, their visit to the Crusade seemingly uneventful. Undaunted, the faithful wife kept praying for her husband. One night as they were tucking their little girl into bed, the child said, "Mommy, I wish Jesus would come into my heart." Even this seemed to have no effect on her husband, but she continued faithfully in prayer.

A few days later as he was

(Continued on page 12)

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## Miracles in Britain

(Continued from page 11)

walking down on the beach alone, he was overwhelmed by a sense of sin and a consciousness of his guilt in the sight of God. Upon his return home, he said to his wife, "I wish we could go back to Harringay, but we just don't have the money to make the trip." His wife bowed her head, silently thanked God, and looked up with misty eyes and said, "I've been saving for months for a new Easter outfit. I'll go see how much I have." When she counted it, she found that she had just enough for the round trip tickets to London and Harringay. Proudly that night she brought him forward, and as the Bible says, "There was great joy in that house."

A young, aspiring, beautiful, dramatic star from South Africa, who came to London with the idea of throwing off all restraints—"Kicking over the traces," as we say—and in her words, "Having a good time"—her idea of a good time was a continuous round of all-night parties with the so-called "smart set," but she came to Harringay just out of curiosity. During that service, the Holy Spirit convicted her of her sin, but she would not yield. She knew that it would mean the end of the wild orgies which she termed a good time. But something, she said, brought her back, and every time she came she was more convinced than ever of her need of God. One

night she was ready to yield, but she remembered that she had planned a "Heaven and Hell party"—a weird affair, where the guests were to come dressed as either citizens of Heaven or Hell, and of course it was to be an all-night affair. She realized that if she accepted Christ, that party would have to be cancelled. As she deliberated, conviction grew so heavy that she knew it was now or never. She had come to the parting of the ways. Without further hesitation, she came forward and accepted Christ. She promptly called her invited guests and called off the party and explained that from that moment on she was going to live for Christ.

"I thought I knew what a good time was," she said, "but since receiving Christ I have only begun to live. I'm beginning to realize for the first time in my life what real peace and joy and satisfaction is."

These are only a few of the isolated experiences of the more than twenty thousand that have already responded to the invitation to receive Christ. Yes, Christ is sufficient for every need in this modern hour in which we live. What Christ has done in the hearts of thousands in London, He can do in your heart if you will receive Him.

(This message available in pamphlet form for 5c; 25 copies, \$1. Address: The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, 1620 Harmon Place, Minneapolis 3, Minnesota.)

## "Worship Centers" . . .

(Continued from page 1)

reason for a Catholic priest to administer the communion as a saving ordinance to individuals at home, as to a congregation in the church. But the Bible idea of the Lord's Supper is entirely contradictory to the Roman Catholic idea. Protestants should leave to Roman Catholics who do not believe the Bible plan of salvation and who have perverted the beautiful ceremony of the Lord's Supper the business of carrying the so-called communion to sick people. Bible Christians should observe the Lord's Supper in the Bible way and with the Bible meaning; a public testimony to faith in the broken body and shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. The very word "communion" would mean that this rite involves other people and is not a simple individual ceremony. The church and the minister who go wrong in this practice are drifting on the doctrine of salvation, though they may not be conscious of this.

### The Second Commandment Expressly Forbids the Use of Images, Likenesses, and Articles as Centers of Worship

Men, eager to make money out of the religious instincts of the people, offer for sale "altar sets" consisting of a polished wood cross or sometimes one of precious metal, and candlesticks with candles. The idea is that a chaplain in the armed services, or a pastor in the home of a shut-in, can set up an altar to God, with the cross in the center and the candles on each side; and thus the spirit of reverence is supposed to be inculcated and people are supposed to be inspired to worship by these articles.

The idea is copied, of course, from so-called "worship centers" set up in churches. Catholic churches have an expensive altar, so do Episcopal churches and some Lutheran churches. The cross, in one form or another, with candles and lights and altar-cloths, and sometimes incense, are used. In churches once fundamental and evangelical, now turning modern in doctrine and method, this idolatry often starts in the young people's society, where a picture of Christ is set up, flanked by candles, or where a lighted cross is in the center, perhaps with a Bible on the table before it.

What is wrong with these "worship centers"? What is wrong is that such worship is literally idolatry. It is idol worship. As such, it is plainly and explicitly forbidden in the Bible.

The first of the Ten Command-

ments is, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

The second commandment is, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them..." (Exod. 20:4, 5).

No graven image, nor "any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth" shall be used in worship. To make such a thing is wrong, is sin. To "bow down thyself to them" is equally a wicked sin. Any likeness or image or article before which people bow down in worship is an idol.

Immediately people answer back and say, "But we do not worship the altar, nor the cross, nor the picture of Christ, nor the candles—these are only aids to worship God." To be sure, my friend, but that is all idolatry ever is. Do you suppose that when a Catholic bows down before the image of Christ, or the image of the Virgin Mary, and prays, that they confuse that marble statue with Christ or with Mary? Oh, no, the statue or image is only a reminder, they say, an aid to worship. The crucifix worn by a priest or nun or kept by any devout Catholic—do you suppose that they think that God Himself is in that crucifix? No, the crucifix is only a reminder of the crucified Saviour. Yet the use of it is forbidden in the second commandment, like the use of other images used in worship in Catholic churches.

In Ephesus there was a guild of silversmiths, making images for the worship of Diana of the Ephesians. Do you think these idol-makers believed that each little image they made was a separate and real supernatural being, a goddess? Oh, no, each little image was only patterned after the large image which they said was "the image which fell down from Jupiter" (Acts 19:35). Every idol is only a representation of some spirit being.

When Aaron with the children of Israel built a golden calf out of the earrings and jewelry brought him by the Jews in the wilderness, do you suppose that they thought this bit of inanimate metal was really a supernatural being? No, no! They only thought that this golden calf was in some way the home, or the representative, or a reminder of the bull god worshipped by heathen people in Egypt.

So when church people bow down before a worship center,

they do exactly what all heathen idolaters do; they bow down before some article or image which is to remind them of the God they worship. As God clearly says, "Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them"; not to bow down before any graven image or any likeness of anything in earth or Heaven or Hell!

The use of so-called "worship centers" in worship is idolatry, and abomination to God. Any church has forsaken the Bible idea of worship which uses a worship center.

### Object Lessons Favored: "Aid to Worship" Forbidden in the Bible

In Numbers 21:5-9 we are told about the serpent of brass which Moses made at God's command and put upon a pole so that all who were bitten by the fiery serpents might look to this serpent of brass and be healed. That serpent of brass was an object lesson, divinely appointed, to picture the coming Saviour who would bear our sins. Jesus told Nicodemus in John 3:14, 15, that just as that brass serpent was lifted up on a pole, so Christ Himself, the Son of Man, should be lifted up on the cross and that whosoever should believe in Him would have everlasting life, just as the Israelites who looked on the brass snake were healed of their snake bites. The use of object lessons to make clear scriptural truths, is clearly endorsed in the Bible. The Lord's Supper is itself an object lesson, reminding us of the broken body and the shed blood of the Lord Jesus. Baptism is an object lesson. Old Testament prophets oftentimes used object lessons. Every animal sacrifice was an object lesson.

But if that brass snake came to be regarded with veneration; if people felt that they could pray to God better if they bowed down before a brass snake which pictured the coming Saviour, would that be permissible? Well, that is exactly what happened in the days of King Hezekiah. The brazen serpent had become simply a part of a "worship center," and in God's sight was regarded as an idol. Second Kings 18:4 tells us what Hezekiah did about this "altar set." "He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan." The object lesson came to be used as an "altar piece," really an idol, and so now became an abomination to God and Hezekiah destroyed it! So when Catholics lift up the bread and wine and say it has really become the body and blood of Christ and that people should really worship it, they are guilty of idolatry. The Lord's Supper is proper and right as an object lesson. As an "aid to worship" as Catholics use it, it is idolatrous and hurtful.

In the days of Gideon after the wonderful victory over the hosts of Midian, Gideon took the spoil of gold, "And Gideon made an ephod thereof, and put it in his city, even in Ophrah: and all Israel went thither a whoring after it: which thing became a snare unto Gideon, and to his house" (Judg. 8:27). An ephod was not intended to be worshipped, any more than the altar on which the sacrifices were burned, or the vessels in which the blood was caught. But it became a snare because people came to use it as a worship center, in plain words, an idol.

Object lessons clearly understood are permissible and helpful. But any objects, images, pictures, candles, altars, used as a center of worship to represent God, and toward which people bow, are an abomination to God. That kind of worship is idolatry; it is bowing down before images, or likenesses and is forbidden in the second of the Ten Commandments.

Pictures used in worship are as much idolatry as images or statues. In Numbers 33:51, 52, God commanded, "Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye are passed over Jordan into the land of Canaan; Then ye shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and destroy all their pictures, and destroy all their molten images, and quite pluck down all their high places."

Beautiful pictures as adornment for the home, or elsewhere, are not forbidden in the Bible. But as aids to worship, as something before which men may pray or worship, they are absolutely forbidden in the Bible.

Once a Daily Vacation Bible School teacher, in a school promoted by fundamental churches, was teaching the little ones how to make a "worship center." No doubt she was only following the literature put out by modernistic denominational publishing houses, or the practice in modernistic churches. We trust she did not follow the teachings of the good pastors and church members she represented. When I learned of it I instructed my good wife to keep our children away from such an idolatrous practice. Doubtless others protested also and that plan was dropped. But unthinking people who are setting out to follow the pattern of modernists in this matter should be taught the terrible sin they are committing and the ruin that will follow.

### Other Tendencies Toward Idolatry

Many churches these days are greatly concerned to obtain what they call an air of "reverence." They think that people can worship better with stained-glass windows, with pipe organ music, with formality in worship, with robed choirs, with responses patterned after Catholics and Episcopalians. Actually, the effect is not reverence at all in any Bible sense. It is a certain enjoyment of sensual, fleshly pleasure which has nothing to do with the Holy Spirit. It appeals to the aesthetic nature. It may give enjoyment, but it is not really spiritual enjoyment. It is mental enjoyment. It may give a sense of exaltation, like any kind of beautiful music, secular or sacred, like a beautiful painting, an autumn scene, majestic mountains, or the awe-inspiring waves of the sea. Cultured and sensitive unsaved people may enjoy fine music or beautiful colors or scenes

of nature just as much as Christians do. And in exactly the same way, the unconverted sinner may enjoy a formal church "worship" service. In exactly the same way that Christians do, multitudes of Catholics and Episcopalians who are unconverted, enjoy such a formal church service. Blasphemers, drunkards, infidels, agnostics alike, may enjoy the sensual appeal to the aesthetic mind. But that is not true reverence for God, and it has nothing to do with worship. Actually, it is a carnal human substitute for Christian worship. It often becomes a form of idolatry. Formalism in the church is abominable. It precludes revival, it offends the Holy Spirit, it shuts out hungry-hearted people. Formalism itself is a tendency toward idolatry. It is the mark of all human religions, as differentiated from the Bible kind of spiritual worship of a true God and faith in His Son, Jesus.

New Testament, Bible kind of churches should have their services center around the Bible, testimony and soul winning, not about any forms of service. God must be offended and jealous when any church house or church auditorium is called "the sanctuary." God has no sanctuaries on earth except the bodies of saved people. The Holy Spirit does not dwell in houses made with hands. When any place or house or form of worship or altar or worship center becomes essential to the worship, then it is an abomination to God.

Many people love to hear the pipe organ during prayer. Actually, that is purely fleshly, carnal, unspiritual. The more the people listen to the music, the less they partake of the prayer. The more the carnal mind is pleased by such popery and Catholic trappings, the less they really approach Christ in prayer. For one to be conscious of the music at all would be divided attention. Real, born-again Christians should leave off such abominations and worship God in spirit, not in these "aids" of idolatry.



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